SEC3
a SIX company

Annual Report

2025

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Management Report

1. General Conditions and Business Performance

SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH, founded on 27 February 1998, was entered in the commercial register at Frankfurt am Main Local Court under HRB 46 118 after being granted a full banking licence by the Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin), Bonn.

SIX Group AG, Zurich, holds 100% of the bank's share capital of EUR 30 million.

The processing of payment transactions in euros as part of correspondent banking remained the main component of the SECB's business activities in the 2025 reporting year. The vast majority of services are provided to Swiss financial institutions (approx. 95%).

As in 2024, the EU economy experienced moderate growth in 2025, supported by falling inflation. In the EU, headline inflation fell slightly from 2.5% in 2024 to around 2.4% in 2025, due to stabilizing energy prices and tight monetary policy. Based on quarterly, seasonally and calendar-adjusted data, gross domestic product rose by approximately 1.5% in the euro area and by approximately 1.6% in the EU in 2025.

According to initial calculations by the Federal Statistical Office (Destatis), the German economy is set to show weak growth of around 0.2% in real gross domestic product (GDP) in 2025, following two years of recession in 2023 and 2024. This growth is primarily attributable to increased consumer spending by private households and the government. The inflation rate in Germany, measured as the change in the consumer price index, stood at +2.2% on an annual average in 2025 compared with 2024.

During 2025, the European Central Bank (ECB) continued the shift in interest rate policy that had begun in 2024. In February 2025, the ECB cut the deposit facility rate for the first time by 25 basis points to 2.75%, down from the 3.0% that had applied in the opening weeks. By June 2025, there had been three further interest rate cuts of 25 basis points each, meaning that the deposit facility rate remained steady at 2.00% for the second half of the year.

According to the available data, Switzerland's real, sports-event-adjusted gross domestic product rose by 1.4% in 2025. This represents a slight acceleration in economic growth compared with 2023 and 2024, when growth of 1.2% was recorded in each year. In 2025, Swiss industry continued to be weighed down by the weak European economy, higher US tariffs and the high value of the Swiss franc. Whilst the pharmaceutical sector recorded further growth in value added in 2025, it was unable to fully offset the declines in other industrial sectors, meaning that the industrial sector as a whole once again made a negative contribution to GDP growth. By contrast, the services sector performed well again in 2025, with the financial sector and trade in particular recording noticeable increases in value added as early as the first half of the year.

The Swiss National Bank (SNB) has kept its key interest rates at 0.50% until March 2025. From the end of March 2025, the SNB's key interest rate was cut twice, by 25 basis points on each occasion, and stood at 0.00% at the end of 2025.

The management defines the following as financial performance indicators: net interest and commission income, net profit for the year, and the number and volume of transactions, the trends in which are discussed in more detail below. The management does not define any non-financial performance indicators, as these are not relevant to the management of SECB.

Overall, business performance in 2025 was positive in terms of the number of payment transactions processed. There was an increase in transactions of around 8.1% compared with the previous year (previous year's increase: 8.8%). Similarly, transaction volumes rose by around 6.5% compared with the previous year.

For SECB, the continued fall in key interest rates has led to further relief on net interest income in 2025. As a result, after two years of negative net interest income, the bank was once again able to generate a positive net interest income of EUR 7,460 thousand. Interest expenses on the liabilities side, at EUR 28,611 thousand, were significantly lower than the interest expenses for the 2024 financial year, which amounted to EUR 60,716 thousand. Interest income amounted to EUR 36,071 thousand. Maturing fixed-income securities were replaced by variable-rate securities only to a limited extent. The majority of the freed-up liquidity was deposited with the Bundesbank.

Provisions for potential losses were recognized in previous financial years in respect of securities held to maturity as part of the loss-free valuation of the banking book. These were partially released in the 2024 and 2025 financial years due to the ECB's changed interest rate policy, the maturities of coupon bonds and the restructuring of the securities portfolio. Of the provisions for potential losses formed in previous years, a total of EUR 5.5 million was released in the 2025 financial year, meaning that a provision for potential losses of EUR 7.0 million is recognized in the balance sheet as at 31 December 2025.

2. Earnings

Although SECB's earnings performance remained challenging in the 2025 financial year due to the changing interest rate environment, the negative net interest income of EUR 10,658 thousand in the previous year improved to a positive net interest income of EUR 7,460 thousand in the 2025 financial year. This was primarily driven by the European Central Bank's (ECB) key interest rate policy. The ECB's interest rate cuts enabled refinancing costs to be reduced by approximately 0.5% compared with the planned interest rate.

Although interest income from the securities portfolio fell short of the originally planned figure, higher customer deposits meant that the investment with the Deutsche Bundesbank exceeded the target. Due to the lower interest rates on customer deposits, net interest income improved significantly compared with both the previous year and the original forecast (forecast: a net interest loss of EUR 147 thousand).

Net commission income of EUR 7,533 thousand increased compared with the previous year (EUR 7,074 thousand). The fact that the target figure of EUR 6,686 thousand was exceeded is primarily attributable to the higher number of transactions. The planned forecast of a stable number of transactions was exceeded by a total of approximately EUR 1.3 million, with cross-border transactions amounting to 21.3 million (previous year: 19.5 million) and domestic transactions amounting to 3.0 million (previous year: 3.0 million), was exceeded by a total of around 1.3 million compared to a planned transaction volume of 23 million. Similarly, the total transaction volume increased from EUR 2,945 billion in 2024 to EUR 3,064 billion in 2025, thereby exceeding the planned figure of EUR 3,049 billion.

General administrative expenses, including amortization of intangible assets amounting to EUR 14,509 thousand, increased compared with the previous year (EUR 12,730 thousand) due to staff recruitment and investments in the implementation of regulatory requirements; however, they remained below the budgeted figure for the 2025 financial year (EUR 15,771 thousand). The main drivers within general administrative expenses remained staff costs at EUR 6,236 thousand and IT costs at EUR 5,327 thousand.

After two challenging years, SECB returned to a successful business performance in the 2025 financial year. Transaction volumes also increased as a result of higher transaction numbers. Thanks to further interest rate cuts by the European Central Bank in 2025, the Management Board was able to achieve a net profit of EUR 8,186 thousand (previous year: EUR 8,929 thousand) at the end of the financial year, which was better than forecast (net profit of EUR 769 thousand). This result was achieved primarily through the positive development in net interest and commission income, as well as the further release of provisions for potential losses (EUR 38,500 thousand) formed in previous years, arising from the loss-free valuation of the banking book in the amount of EUR 5,500 thousand. Consequently, the net loss of EUR 54,739 thousand from the previous year was reduced to a net loss of EUR 46,553 thousand in the financial year.

3. Net Assets and Financial Position

Receivables and liabilities are denominated exclusively in euros. By reinvesting customer deposits with the Deutsche Bundesbank, the bank does not need to draw on credit facilities from other financial institutions.

As at the balance sheet date, 100% of the liabilities to banks, amounting to EUR 1,618,658 thousand (previous year: EUR 1,812,820 thousand), consist of demand deposits arising exclusively from the processing of payment transactions. In addition, three customers (Fintech) provide demand deposits for the processing of payment transactions, which are recognized in the balance sheet under liabilities to customers at EUR 115,251 thousand (previous year: EUR 80,791 thousand). Approximately 16.4% (previous year: 20.5%) of the demand deposits from credit institutions are attributable to a major customer, a group company of the shareholder.

The stable base of customer deposits and equity were mainly invested in interest-bearing securities from public entities and credit institutions. A large proportion of these fungible securities, with a nominal value of EUR 596,700 thousand (lending value: EUR 576,739 thousand) (previous year: EUR 904,700 thousand (lending value: EUR 805,948 thousand)), is held in the collateral account with the Deutsche Bundesbank.

Receivables from credit institutions amounting to EUR 1,017,549 thousand (previous year: EUR 783,785 thousand) consist primarily of a cash deposit with the Deutsche Bundesbank, payable on demand, amounting to EUR 1,016,373 thousand (previous year: EUR 782,257 thousand).

Purchases of interest-bearing securities, promissory note loans and registered bonds were only made with issuers with an issuer rating of at least long-term BBB-. No money market investments were made in 2025.

No derivative financial instruments were used.

As at 31 December 2025, equity as shown in the balance sheet amounted to EUR 213,147 thousand (previous year: EUR 204,961 thousand).

Liquidity was maintained at all times during the past financial year. The bank also met the regulatory capital ratios. As at the balance sheet date, the total capital ratio stood at 74.22% (previous year: 50.68%), well above the regulatory minimum requirements. SECB's leverage ratio stood at 10.44% as at 31 December 2025 (previous year: 9.19%). The regulatory minimum ratios for the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) of 301.22% (previous year: 241.55%) and for the Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) of 187.15% (previous year: 145.18%) were also met. The bank's solvency was ensured at all times.

In summary, SECB's financial position, cash flow and profitability were positively affected during the financial year due to the fall in key euro interest rates and the release of a provision for anticipated losses of EUR 5,500 thousand.

4. Employees and Memberships

The average number of employees has increased compared to the previous year. As at 31 December 2025, the bank employed 48 permanent staff (compared with 45 in the previous year) and two Managing Directors.

The bank places great emphasis on the continuous professional development of its staff. The bank's success would not be possible without the professional expertise of all its employees and the ongoing development of its systems.

Staff remuneration for the 2025 financial year was based on a fixed salary for all employees.

The bank is a member of the German Banks' Compensation Scheme GmbH in Berlin, as well as the Association of International Banks in Germany (formerly the Association of Foreign Banks), in Frankfurt am Main.

5. Risk Report

Although SECB is authorized to conduct all banking business, internal regulations governing payment services and the investment of surplus funds in securities remain in force.

Based on the bank's strategic direction, as determined by the Management Board and approved by the Supervisory Board, the business and risk strategy is reviewed annually and adjusted as necessary. The risk strategy is defined on the basis of procedures designed to determine and ensure the bank's risk-bearing capacity.

The risks resulting from business activities are identified, limited and managed using a risk management system implemented for this purpose.

To identify risks, the Management Board and Risk Controlling regularly review the bank's risk profile on the basis of a risk inventory.

The risk-bearing capacity framework that has been implemented is designed to ensure that SECB's risk coverage potential is sufficient to cover all material risks at all times. The risk-bearing capacity framework is based on both the normative and economic perspectives, in accordance with BaFin's RTF guidelines.

On the basis of the calculated risk coverage potential, limits are set as total loss and partial loss ceilings in accordance with the business strategy for all risks identified as material.

The bank's economic risk-bearing capacity and the utilization of risk-relevant limits are determined and monitored on a monthly basis, and the findings are brought to the attention of the Management Board. The monthly monitoring of the utilization of internally set limits by Risk Control and the Management Board is intended to ensure that these overall limits are adhered to at all times. The calculation and reconciliation of regulatory requirements and the bank's risk appetite with the regulatory ratios determined on the basis of planning takes place at least annually. The Supervisory Board is provided with comprehensive quarterly reports on the results from both the economic and regulatory perspectives, including other risk-relevant issues. Any breaches of limits must be reported immediately to both the Management Board and the Supervisory Board.

In addition, the bank records, manages and monitors its identified risks on the basis of organizational guidelines, rules on structural and procedural organization and implemented risk management and controlling processes.

The bank regularly carries out the stress scenario analyses required by regulatory authorities. To this end, constellations of risk factors are first identified that have a significant impact on the bank's net assets, financial position and results of operations as well as its risk-bearing capacity.

Suitable institution-specific and market-specific scenarios as well as a combination of both scenarios are taken into account based on the bank's strategic direction. The stress scenarios based on this are analyzed with regard to their effects, which have a univariate or multivariate effect in each of the risk types (counterparty default risk, interest rate risk, credit spread risk, liquidity risk, operational risk including ESG risk, business risk and model risk). An inverse stress test is also carried out at least once a year.

The calculations in the economic perspective are based on the present value model and the derivation of the risk coverage potential on the near present value model. In the normative perspective, multi-year planning is carried out as required. The starting point for the normative perspective is the regulatory and supervisory ratios and their calculation logic. Regulatory capital determinations are plausibly extrapolated in the capital planning and planned results for future periods are taken into account as another important input variable. In addition to the base scenario, an adverse and an inverse scenario of the normative perspective are also calculated.

In addition to quantitative counterparty and issuer-related limits, the Management Board also sets further qualitative framework conditions, such as minimum creditworthiness and the borrower's country of domicile, in compliance with the regulatory upper limit for large exposures.

For the lending business, the VaR model is determined statistically using a Monte Carlo simulation with a confidence level of 99.9% and a risk horizon of one year. The model parameters are the probabilities of default, the loss ratios, the intra- and inter-correlations and the outstanding exposure amounts. In principle, counterparty default risks continue to be taken into account by the fact that investments in securities and registered bonds may only be made with counterparties that fulfil strict minimum rating requirements with Moody's or comparable ratings with another rating agency. The securities, which are allocated in their entirety to the banking book, must also fulfil the ESCB's requirements for marketable securities in liquidity categories I, II and III and, if eligible as collateral, must be deposited in the corresponding SECB pledged securities account at the Deutsche Bundesbank.

Individual analyses, also taking external ratings into account, are carried out regularly to assess counterparty default risks. Investment decisions are made directly by the entire Management Board on the basis of the issuer's credit analysis.

Concentration risk exists when investing in securities in the form of concentration on domestic and European public-sector counterparties, including the Federal Republic of Germany and its federal states, special funds of the federal government and federal and state institutions (in particular development banks), which is taken into account in the modelling of counterparty default risk as part of the risk-bearing capacity concept by means of suitable sector correlations. On the other hand, there is a concentration risk within the securities portfolio in the form of high volumes on certain individual counterparties. In the area of investments in variable and fixed-interest securities and registered bonds, there is an interest rate risk and credit spread risk in addition to the counterparty default risk. For interest rate risk, the VaR is modelled for a one-year risk horizon using a historical simulation and an observation period of more than 20 years (since the introduction of the euro). For credit spread risk, the VaR is also determined for a one-year risk horizon using a forecast value simulation over an observation period of 10 years. In both cases, a holding period of 250 trading days is taken into account.

In the event of an unexpected liquidity shortfall, the securities portfolio may be used at any time in Lombard transactions with the Deutsche Bundesbank to raise liquidity. Furthermore, as part of the required ILAAP, the survival horizon is calculated for the baseline scenario, as well as for institution-specific, market-specific and combined scenarios. The LCR and NSFR ratios are monitored daily and compared with the limit requirements. A concentration risk exists among deposit customers in the form of high deposit volumes from certain individual customers. There is a concentration risk with deposit customers in the form of the high deposit volumes of certain individual customers.

Due to the bank's business model and strategic focus, operational risks primarily relate to outsourcing, in particular the provision of ICT systems by various service providers. The availability of ICT systems represents a significant operational risk to business operations, which is mitigated by appropriate and technically sound redundancy measures. The potential cyber and information security risks associated with the ICT systems are actively managed by ICT risk management and the information security officer. Based on third-party risk assessments, a distinction is made between material and immaterial third-party relationships. Material third-party relationships are taken into account in risk management and are subject to continuous monitoring.

In the area of human resources, the Management Board pursues a personnel policy focused on sustainability. An annual integrity check is carried out on all employees. The bank has a central compliance function to mitigate the risks that may arise from non-compliance with regulatory and legal requirements. In this context, the bank also holds directors' and officers' (D&O) insurance to minimize the financial consequences of such risks. Legal risks are of minor significance and are monitored by the Management Board and managed in consultation with external law firms. All loss events affecting the bank are recorded and analyzed in a claims database. When calculating operational risks, the assessments and results of the bank-wide risk self-assessment are taken into account. Operational risks are determined using a Monte Carlo simulation with a confidence level of 99.9% and a risk horizon of one year.

The bank's business risk consists of failing to meet its targets, as the bank is exposed to a concentration of earnings risk due to its business model. It counters this by including business risk in the risk-bearing capacity concept. As a material risk, this is limited accordingly. Using a VaR calculation based on the normal distribution assumption and a confidence level of 99.9% as well as a risk horizon of one year, the business risk is determined as a deviation from the target figures (target/actual analysis).

The model risk is estimated on an expert basis. In order to integrate the risk into the risk-bearing capacity concept, a flat-rate risk amount of 5% of the total risks was set at the SECB.

As at the reporting date of 31 December 2025, the economic perspective is as follows:

	Risk value in TEUR 31.12.2024	Risk value in TEUR 31.12.2025	Limit in % 31.12.2025	Limit in TEUR 31.12.2025	Limit utilization in % 31.12.2025
Risk coverage amount	193,917	201,081			
Counterparty default risks	38,864	24,777	40.0%	80,432	30.8%
Market price risk	55,407	37,685	50.0%	100,541	37.5%
Interest rate risk	27,585	22,598	25.0%	50,270	45.0%
Credit spread risk	27,822	15,087	25.0%	50,270	30.0%
Operational risk	2,796	3,421	3.0%	6,032	56.7%
Other risks	7,886	8,526	7.0%	14,076	60.6%
Business risk	2,888	4,983			
Model risk	4,998	3,543			
Total	**104,953**	**74,409**	**100.0%**	**201,081**	**37.0%**

As at the reporting date of 31 December 2025, the normative perspective based on the key figures is as follows:

Key figures	in TEUR / % 31.12.2024	in TEUR / % 31.12.2025	Regulatory requirement 31.12.2025
Total equity	194,903	203,933	
RWA total	384,579	274,776	
RWA credit risk	*346,536*	*236,617*	
RWA operational risk	*38,043*	*38,160*	
Overall capital ratio	50.68%	74.22%	25.09%
Leverage ratio	9.19%	10.44%	3.00%
LCR	241.55%	301.22%	100%
NSFR	145.18%	187.15%	100%

The key figures for the multi-year outlook for the period 2026–2028 are as follows:

Key figures	in TEUR / % 31.12.2026	in TEUR / % 31.12.2027	in TEUR / % 31.12.2028
Total equity	162,469	120,391	125,633
RWA total	203,833	153,588	112,960
RWA credit risk	*162,920*	*114,752*	*77,733*
RWA operational risk	*40,913*	*38,836*	*35,227*
Overall capital ratio	79.71%	78.39%	111.22%
Leverage ratio	9.26 %	8.92%	8.93%

Compared with 2025, total capital will decline in 2026 and 2027, as equity repayments to the parent company amounting to EUR 50 million (subject to regulatory approval) are planned for each year.

In addition to ongoing monitoring and ensuring the smooth processing of payment transactions, the SECB sets high creditworthiness requirements (e.g. minimum rating of issuers: BBB-) for the selection and ongoing monitoring of issuers for investments in securities and registered bonds. The reputational risk, which could, for example, lead to the withdrawal of customer funds due to a loss of reputation, is of secondary importance for the bank as a result of the measures mentioned.

The bank's risk management concept is continuously monitored in accordance with the requirements of MaRisk, revised in the event of changing conditions and forms an integral part of the Internal Audit department's audit plan.

SECB's risk management is designed to ensure that, taking into account its overall risk profile, the risks considered in the risk-bearing capacity framework are continuously covered by the Bank's risk coverage potential.

In the financial year 2025, risk-bearing capacity was ensured at all times in both the economic and normative perspectives of the risk-bearing capacity concept.

Limit utilization in the economic perspective was 37.0% (previous year: 54.1%). The main driver for the reduction in overall risk was the restructuring and reduction of the securities portfolio. At the same time, the risk coverage base was increased from EUR 193,917 thousand as at 31 December 2024 to EUR 201,081 thousand as at 31 December 2025.

With its current and future capitalization, the SECB is in a comfortable position to cover its risks, which is also reflected in the regulatory key figures, which are well above the regulatory minimum requirements as at the reporting date and also in the forecast.

6. Forecast Report

Leading economic research institutes, including the ifo Institute in Munich, expect only moderate economic momentum for Germany in 2026 as well. According to current forecasts, real gross domestic product is expected to grow by around 0.8%, following a slowdown in economic growth in previous years due to structural challenges and geopolitical uncertainties. Trade tensions, particularly US tariff policy, continue to weigh on export-oriented industry and could further dampen growth. Based on our current assessment, the war in Iran that began at the end of February 2026 is not expected to have any direct impact on us given our business model.

Inflation remains relatively stable. According to the ifo forecast, the inflation rate in Germany is expected to remain at around 2.2% in 2026, and thus close to the European Central Bank's target. The ECB continues to pursue a data-dependent monetary policy with the aim of stabilizing inflation sustainably at 2%. However, against a backdrop of moderate demand and persistent geopolitical risks, it remains to be seen how quickly price trends can be permanently anchored within the target range.

The labor market continues to present a mixed picture. Whilst employment remains largely stable, the ifo Institute forecasts that, following a rise in unemployment in 2025, the situation in Germany will stagnate in 2026 before improving slightly in subsequent years. Structural adjustment processes, particularly in industry and energy-intensive sectors, continue to act as a drag on growth.

The momentum remains limited on the international stage as well. According to the ifo forecast, the global economy is expected to grow only moderately on average in 2026, whilst Germany is losing competitiveness due to structural challenges. Although fiscal policy measures such as investment in infrastructure and defence may generate short-term growth effects of around 0.3 percentage points in 2026, they are not sufficient on their own to significantly increase long-term production potential.

The Swiss National Bank continues to expect a low-inflation environment for Switzerland. Forecasts point to inflation of around 0.0% in 2026, whilst monetary policy remains accommodative. Economic growth is likely to remain subdued due to the moderate global economic outlook.

Overall, the macroeconomic environment for 2026 is characterized by moderate growth, stabilizing inflationary pressures and continued heightened political and trade-related uncertainties. A sustained economic acceleration depends largely on structural reforms, investment in infrastructure and the development of global demand.

SECB derives a significant strategic advantage from its direct connection to key European clearing systems.

Furthermore, the announced phase-out of the euroSIC system by the end of 2027 presents an opportunity to position oneself as the preferred partner for euro-based payment processing within the eurozone – particularly outside Switzerland. Whilst the transition to direct connections requires greater coordination and customer support, it also opens up the possibility of sustainably strengthening customer engagement through personalized support and bespoke solutions. Whilst there is a risk that some customers may not go along with the change and leave, these are mostly inactive relationships that currently generate little to no revenue. Their loss would instead help to streamline the customer portfolio and strengthen the focus on active, committed partnerships. Furthermore, the owner is exploring strategic options regarding the period following the discontinuation of the euroSIC system.

Annual and multi-year plans are drawn up to forecast SECB's future earnings, assets and financial position. These plans include capital, income and cost projections, as well as stress scenarios, taking into account expected new client business, transaction volumes and the securities portfolio. The forecasts below refer to the planning for the year 2026.

In its customer service activities, the bank will continue to focus on ensuring that Swiss and Liechtenstein financial institutions can be reached efficiently for euro payments. The focus remains on consolidating the bank's position as an entry point for euro payments and as a gateway to euro clearing systems. SECB's connectivity to all major euro clearing systems in the euro area is being consistently expanded. The steadily rising transaction volumes confirm the importance of the euroSIC/SECB combination as an alternative to traditional correspondent banking. Even following the announced discontinuation of euroSIC by the end of 2027, SECB does not view this as a limitation, but rather as an opportunity to strengthen cross-border euro correspondent banking. A gradual migration of customers to direct connections will ensure that euro payment transactions can continue to be processed efficiently – even without euroSIC.

The bank will continue to respond to the growing market demand for cost-effective payment channels and methods with appropriate solutions. We expect the number of transactions to remain stable at around 23 million in 2026, despite the changing landscape of payment transactions in the euro area. A moderate increase in the volume of payments processed to around EUR 3.14 trillion is expected for 2026. SECB intends to capitalize on this trend through intensive marketing measures aimed at attracting new customers and generating additional business. The product and service portfolio is continuously analyzed and adapted to market requirements. With these measures, as well as the consistent maintenance of the highest quality standards in processing and customer service, customer relationships are set to be further strengthened in 2026.

By securing additional business, including in the areas of SEPA credit transfers and SEPA direct debits, and by optimizing our business model, we expect net commission income of approximately EUR 7.6 million in 2026.

The interest result in 2026 will reflect the improved situation whereby, on the asset side, the proportion of low-yield fixed-income securities maturing over the next few years in the portfolio will decrease, whilst the proportion of floating-rate notes offering a better yield will increase. We therefore expect further improvements in the average interest rate of the asset portfolio and, as a result, a positive net interest income for 2026 of approximately EUR 12.9 million.

Overall, the operating result in 2026 will also be influenced by the ECB's future interest rate policy in terms of net interest income. Net interest income is the key driver of the profit and loss account. Our customers' market-based interest rate requirements on the liabilities side are predominantly offset on the assets side by a securities portfolio with an average yield that remains below the ECB's key interest rates. The annual plan for 2026 anticipates a good year, with rising net commission income, moderate growth in administrative expenses and a positive net interest income, which is expected to result in an annual profit of approximately EUR 6.5 million.

Dr. Franz Siener-Kirsch, CEO
Erdal Konak, CFO & CRO

SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH
Frankfurt am Main, 31 March 2026

Report of the Supervisory Board

During the financial year 2025, the Supervisory Board, as the governing body of the Company, performed the duties incumbent upon it in accordance with the Articles of Association. It received regular written and verbal reports from the company's management on economic developments.

The Supervisory Board approved the business transactions requiring approval after reviewing and discussing them with the Management Board.

The annual financial statements and the management report for the financial year 2025 were submitted to the Supervisory Board.

The annual financial statements as at 31 December 2025 and the management report for the financial year 2025, including the accounting records, were audited by EY GmbH & Co. KG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft, Mergenthalerallee 3, 65760 Eschborn, Germany, which was appointed as statutory auditor for the financial year 2025 by the ordinary shareholders' resolution dated 25 June 2025. The auditing company has issued an unqualified audit opinion on the annual financial statements. The Supervisory Board acknowledged and approved the auditors' report. It examined the annual financial statements and the management report. No objections were raised.

The Supervisory Board approved the annual financial statements presented by the Management Board.

Dieter Goerdten, Chairman of the Supervisory Board

The Board of Directors
Frankfurt am Main, 10 June 2026

Proposed Resolution on the Utilization of Profits

The net profit for the financial year 2025 amounts to EUR 8,185,821.35. After adding the loss carried forward from the financial year 2024 of EUR 54,739,123.03, a balance sheet loss of EUR 46,553,301.68 results.

The following appropriation of funds is proposed to the shareholders' meeting:
1. To carry forward the loss in the amount of EUR 46,553,301.68 to new account.

Annual Balance Sheet of SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH

as of 31 December 2025

Assets			31.12.2025	31.12.2024
	EUR	EUR	EUR	Prev. yr TEUR
1. Cash reserve				
a) Cash on hand		239.70		5
b) Cash at central banks		0.00	**239.70**	0
of which:				
at the German Bundesbank	0.00			
2. Receivables from credit institutions				
a) Due on demand		1,017,548,921.83	**1,017,548,921.83**	783,785
3. Receivables from customers		68,250.00	**68,250.00**	20,185
of which:				
Secured by mortgage	0.00			
Loans to public authorities	0.00			
4. Bonds and other fixed-interest securities				
a) Bonds and debentures				
aa) issued by public authorities		59,407,115.74		214,722
of which:				
eligible as collateral at the German Bundesbank	60,041,815.74 (Vj. 210,737,290.79)			
ab) other issuers		877,850,680.26	**937,257,796.00**	1,104,174
of which:				
eligible as collateral at the German Bundesbank	537,884,556.62 (Vj. 696,671,326.31)			
5. Intangible fixed assets				
a) Concenssions, commercial trademarks and similar rights and assets, and licenses fur such rights and assets, purchased against payment		660,900.69	**660,900.69**	787
6. Tangible assets			**151,492.16**	163
7. Other assets			**1,330,672.90**	1,481
8. Prepaid expenses and other current assets			**507,050.98**	541
Total Assets			**1,957,525,324.26**	2,125,843

Liablilities		**31.12.2025**	**31.12.2024**
	EUR	**EUR**	Prev. yr TEUR
1. Liabilities to credit institutions			
a) Due on demand	1,618,657,931.43	**1,618,657,931.43**	1,812,820
2. Liabilities to customers			
a) Other liabilities			
aa) Due on demand	115,251,269.10	**115,251,269.10**	80,791
3. Other liabilities		**2,240,125.98**	13,668
4. Provisions			
b) Tax provisions	56,066.43		0
c) Other provisions	8,173,233.00	**8,229,299.43**	13,603
5. Equity capital			
a) Subscribed capital	30,000,000.00		30,000
b) Capital reserves	150,000,000.00		150,000
c) Retained earnings			
cd) other retained earnings	79,700,000.00		79,700
d) Net profit/loss	-46,553,301.68	**213,146,698.32**	-54,739
Total Liabilities		**1,957,525,324.26**	**2,125,843**

Profit and Loss Account of SECB
SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH

for the period from 01 January to 31 December 2025

			31.12.2025	31.12.2024
	EUR	EUR	**EUR**	TEUR
1. Interest income from:				
a) lending and money market transactions	18,508,074.17			24,346
b) fixed-interest securities and debt register claims	17,562,986.69	36,071,060.86		25,713
2. Interest expenses		28,610,825.44	**7,460,235.42**	60,716
3. Commission income		13,321,187.34		12,848
4. Commission expense		5,788,249.03	**7,532,938.31**	5,774
5. Other operating incomed			**5,719,432.10**	26,430
6. General administration expenses				
a) Personnel expenses				
aa) Wages and salaries	5,145,081.34			4,043
ab) Social security, post-employment and other employee benefit costs	1,091,254.79	6,236,336.13		1,059
of which: for retirement benefits 399.274,83 (Vj. 391.839,43)				
b) Other administration expenses		7,867,202.87	**14,103,539.00**	7,216
7. Depreciation and vale adjustments for intangible and tangible assets			**405,679.37**	411
8. Other operating expenses			**1,874.44**	1
9. Depreciation and valuation allowances on shareholdings, shares in affiliated enterprises and securities held as assets		512,084.00		389
10. Income from write-ups on shareholdings, shares in affiliated enterprises and securities held as fixed assets		999,900.00	**487,816.00**	30
11. Results from ordinary activites			**6,689,329.02**	**9,758**
12. Income taxes		-1,526,493.96		803
13. Other taxes, if not shown under item 12		30,001.63	**-1,496,492.33**	27
14. Annual net profit / loss			**8,185,821.35**	**8,929**
15. Profit / Loss brought forward prom previous year			**-54,739,123.03**	-63,668
16. Net profit / loss			**-46,553,301.68**	**-54,739**

Notes for the Financial Year

01 January to 31 December 2025

1. General Data

The annual financial statements of SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH, Frankfurt am Main, entered in the Commercial Register at the Local Court of Frankfurt am Main under No. HRB 46 118, for the financial year 2025 were prepared in accordance with the provisions of the German Commercial Code (HGB), the German Bank Accounting Directive (RechKredV) and the provisions of the German Limited Liability Companies Act (GmbH-Gesetz) and the German Banking Act (KWG).

2. Accounting and Valuation

The accounting policies have remained unchanged from the previous year.

The valuation of assets and liabilities corresponds to the general valuation regulations of Sections 252 et seq. HGB in conjunction with. Sections 340e et seq. HGB.

Cash reserves are carried at their nominal value.

Receivables are stated at their nominal value plus accrued interest.

Intangible assets and property, plant and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation over their useful lives. Low-value assets acquired in the financial year are summarized in an annual collective item and are depreciated over a period of five years or at 20% p.a.

The securities held in the portfolio consist of bonds and debentures which, in accordance with a resolution by the Management Board, have been classified as non-current assets. They are stated inclusive of accrued interest. They have been valued in accordance with the modified lower-of-cost-or-market principle pursuant to Section 253 (3) in conjunction with Section 340e (1) of the German Commercial Code (HGB).

Bonds and other fixed-interest securities are therefore recognized at cost. Any premium paid on acquisition is capitalized as part of the cost and amortized on a straight-line basis over the remaining term. The amortization is recognized in net interest income as an adjustment to interest income.

Securities held in the portfolio were not lent in the financial year 2025.

SECB uses a present value approach to the loss-free valuation of interest-rate-related financial instruments. To this end, the present values derived from the Bundesbank's overnight facilities, securities transactions and customer deposits are compared with their respective carrying amounts. Mismatches in maturities are eliminated by discounting using the refinancing curve, which includes a spread premium on the risk-free yield curve, which in turn reflects the Bundesbank's refinancing facility. The closing of maturity mismatches, as well as discounted administrative expenses and risk costs, are deducted from the calculated and discounted interest income. Although this resulted in a negative amount for the financial year 2025, it is significantly lower than the previous year's figure. As at 31 December 2025, there was an opportunity to partially release the provision for contingent losses previously recognized in accordance with Section 340a of the German Commercial Code (HGB) in conjunction with Section 249 (1), first sentence, of the German Commercial Code (HGB).

In accordance with Section 250 of the German Commercial Code (HGB), expenses incurred prior to the balance sheet date are recognized as prepaid expenses on the assets side of the balance sheet, provided that they represent costs for a specific period after that date.

In accordance with its articles of association, the company does not recognize a deferred tax asset surplus in the balance sheet.

As in previous years, no transactions in derivative financial instruments were carried out during the 2025 financial year.

Liabilities to banks and customers are recognized at their settlement value.

Provisions take into account all identifiable risks and contingent liabilities to an appropriate extent.

Transactions with related parties were concluded on arm's length terms.

Statement of changes in fixed assets for the financial year 2025

	Acquisition costs				Depreciation / Write-downs				Residual book value	
Balance sheet item	**Balance 01.01.2025**	**Addition 2025**	**Disposal 2025**	**Balance 31.12.2025**	**Balance 01.01.2025**	**Addition 2025**	**Disposal 2025**	**Balance 31.12.2025**	**31.12.2025**	**31.12.2024**
Office furniture	116,193.99	0.00	138.62	116,055.37	1,733.00	12,173.14	1,733.00	12,173.14	103,882.23	114,460.99
Office equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PC's	489,006.06	6,352.45	0.00	495,358.51	466,404.80	479,164.80	466,404.80	479,164.80	16,193.71	22,601.26
Fitting of rental premises	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Low-value assets	64,640.00	20,517.15	780.67	84,376.48	38,359.73	52,960.26	38,359.73	52,960.26	31,416.22	26,280.27
Tangible assets total	***669,840.05***	***26,869.60***	***919.29***	***695,790.36***	***506,497.53***	***544,298.20***	***506,497.53***	***544,298.20***	***151,492.16***	***163,342.52***
Intangible assets	**4,855,004.01**	**241,200.00**	**0.00**	**5,096,204.01**	**4,068,205.29**	**367,098.03**	**0.00**	**4,435,303.32**	**660,900.69**	**786,798.72**
Subtotal tangible and intagible assets	*5,524,844.06*	*268,069.60*	*919.29*	*5,791,994.37*	*4,574,702.82*	*911,396.23*	*506,497.53*	*4,979,601.52*	*812,392.85*	*950,141.24*
Registered bonds	20,000,000.00	0.00	20,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,000,000.00
Investment securities	1,317,652,823.90	20,050,600.00	399,175,700.00	938,527,723.90	3,378,758.01	107,084.00	0.00	3,485,842.01	935,041,881.89	1,314,274,065.89
Subtotal Securities	*1,337,652,823.90*	*20,050,600.00*	*419,175,700.00*	*938,527,723.90*	*3,378,758.01*	*107,084.00*	*0.00*	*3,485,842.01*	*935,041,881.89*	*1,334,274,065.89*
Total	**1,343,177,667.96**	**20,318,669.60**	**419,176,619.29**	**944,319,718.27**	**7,953,460.83**	**1,018,480.23**	**506,497.53**	**8,465,443.53**	**935,854,274.74**	**1,335,224,207.13**

3. Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes to the Balance Sheet

Cash reserve

The cash reserve consists exclusively of cash on hand in the amount of EUR 0.2 thousand (previous year: EUR 5 thousand), all of which is postage

Receivables from financial institutions

This item comprises primarily the overnight deposit with the Deutsche Bundesbank amounting to EUR 1,016,373 thousand (previous year: EUR 782,257 thousand) and receivables on nostro accounts (SECB accounts held with other correspondent banks) amounting to EUR 1,176 thousand (previous year: EUR 1,528 thousand).

	2025	2024
	TEUR	TEUR
According to residual terms		
– due daily	1,017,549	783,785

Receivables from customers

This item includes a receivable from euroSIC (flat-rate remuneration) amounting to EUR 68 thousand (previous year: EUR 68 thousand). A registered bond amounting to EUR 20,000 thousand matured in the 2025 financial year.

	2025	2024
	TEUR	TEUR
According to residual terms		
– due daily	68	68
– up to 3 months	0	0
– more than 3 months up to 1 year	0	20,117
– over 1 year up to 5 years inclusive	0	0
– over 5 years	0	0

Bonds and other fixed-income securities

The balance sheet carrying amount of securities treated as non-current assets is EUR 937,258 thousand (previous year: EUR 1,318,896 thousand) and includes accrued interest of EUR 2,216 thousand (previous year: EUR 4,622 thousand).

	2025	2024
	TEUR	TEUR
Marketable bonds and notes	937,258	1,318,896
from public issuers in the amount of	59,407	214,722
– thereof valued like fixed assets	59,407	214,722
– thereof due in the following year	49,432	155,315
from other issuers in the amount of	877,851	1,104,174
– thereof valued like fixed assets	877,851	1,104,174
– thereof due in the following year	339,582	165,119

The carrying amount of the securities is EUR 935,042 thousand (fair value: EUR 921,751 thousand). This includes securities with hidden liabilities with a carrying amount of EUR 517,368 thousand (fair value: EUR 501,445 thousand) and securities with hidden reserves with a carrying amount of EUR 262,674 thousand (fair value: EUR 265,306 thousand), as well as securities amounting to EUR 155,000 thousand, the fair value of which was assessed to be equal to their carrying amount. No write-downs were made, as these are temporary impairments and the bank expects the securities in question to be repaid at their carrying amount. All bonds and debentures are listed on the stock exchange, of which securities with a nominal value of EUR 596,700 thousand (lending value as at 31 December 2025: EUR 534,898 thousand) are held in a pledge deposit with the Deutsche Bundesbank.

The development of the securities portfolio is shown in the statement of changes in fixed assets, which is included as an appendix to the notes to the financial statements.

Intangible assets / property, plant and equipment

Changes in intangible assets and property, plant and equipment during the 2025 financial year are presented separately in the statement of changes in fixed assets, which is included as an appendix to the notes.

Other assets

Other assets mainly result from tax refund claims from value added tax in the amount of EUR 1,070 thousand (previous year: EUR 1,090 thousand) and receivables from fees amounting to EUR 207 thousand (previous year: EUR 336 thousand).

Prepaid expenses

This item mainly relates to prepaid maintenance contracts for 2026 amounting to EUR 472 thousand (previous year: EUR 422 thousand).

Liabilities to banks
All liabilities to banks are due on demand.

	2025	2024
	TEUR	TEUR
According to residual terms		
– due daily	1,618,658	1,812,820

The liabilities relate primarily to demand deposits from other credit institutions arising from payment transactions. The total amount shown includes liabilities to a group company of the shareholder SIX SIS AG, Zurich, Switzerland, amounting to EUR 265,361 thousand (previous year: EUR 371,051 thousand) and to SIX Digital Exchange AG, Zurich, Switzerland, amounting to EUR 3 thousand (previous year: EUR 3 thousand).

Liabilities to customers
All liabilities to customers are due on demand.

	2025	2024
	TEUR	TEUR
According to residual terms		
– due daily	115,251	80,791

The liabilities shown consist primarily of liabilities to Bivial AG, Zug, Switzerland, amounting to EUR 109,420 thousand (previous year: EUR 79,538 thousand), and to SR Saphirstein AG, Zurich, Switzerland, amounting to EUR 5,828 thousand (previous year: EUR 1,073 thousand) and to EUREX Clearing AG, Eschborn, amounting to EUR 3 thousand (previous year: EUR 6 thousand).

Other liabilities
Other liabilities mainly comprise payment transaction liabilities amounting to EUR 2,240 thousand (previous year: EUR 13,668 thousand) that were recognized prior to the settlement date and are only settled by the Deutsche Bundesbank on the following day.

Provisions

	2025	2024
	TEUR	TEUR
Tax provisions	56	0
Other provisions	8,173	13,603

The majority of the other provisions relates to the provision for contingent losses arising from the loss-free valuation of the banking book, amounting to EUR 7,000 thousand (previous year: EUR 12,500 thousand), which fully covers the hidden losses on securities in the investment portfolio. In addition, other provisions include items for intercompany transactions, annual audit fees, IT consultancy and tax consultancy costs, with the exception of the provision for potential losses, which are expected to be utilized within one year.

Equity

	2025	2024
	TEUR	TEUR
Equity	**213,147**	**204,961**
Subscribed capital	30,000	30,000
Capital reserves	150,000	150,000
Retained earnings	79,700	79,700
Accumulated profit/loss	-46,553	-54,739

As at 31 December 2025, the share capital of SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH remains unchanged at EUR 30,000 thousand. 100% of the shares are held by SIX Group AG, Zurich.

Net income and retained earnings
The net profit for the 2024 financial year amounting to EUR 8,929 thousand and the loss carried forward from the 2023 financial year amounting to EUR 63,668 thousand were carried forward to new accounts in accordance with the resolution passed by the general meeting on 25 June 2025.

The net profit for the 2025 financial year of EUR 8,186 thousand and the loss carried forward of EUR 54,739 thousand from 2024 result in a net loss for the 2025 financial year of EUR 46,553 thousand.

The Management Board and the Supervisory Board will propose at the Annual General Meeting that the net profit for the 2025 financial year be set off against the loss carried forward and carried forward to new account.

4. Notes to the Income Statement

Interest income
Interest income from fixed-income securities arises primarily from the portfolio of fixed-income securities, registered bonds and promissory note loans issued by European issuers.

Interest income from lending and money market transactions amounting to EUR 18,508 thousand (previous year: EUR 24,346 thousand) arises primarily from overnight deposits in the current account with the Deutsche Bundesbank.

Interest income from fixed-income securities amounts to EUR 17,563 thousand (previous year: EUR 25,713 thousand).

Interest expense
Interest expenses in the amount of EUR 28,611 thousand (previous year: EUR 60,716 thousand), which are attributable to the banking business with customer deposits.

Fee and commission income
Commission income of EUR 13,321 thousand (previous year: EUR 12,848 thousand) arises from contractual entitlements under a service agreement for the management of a payment transaction system amounting to EUR 2,478 thousand (previous year: EUR 2,201 thousand) as well as fees from payment transactions amounting to EUR 10,843 thousand (previous year: EUR 10,647 thousand), predominantly between Switzerland, Liechtenstein and the eurozone.

Fee and commission expense
Commission expenses amounting to EUR 5,788 thousand (previous year: EUR 5,774 thousand) also arise primarily from contractual obligations under a service agreement for the management of a payment system amounting to EUR 921 thousand (previous year: EUR 837 thousand), fees from payment transactions, predominantly from Guaranteed OUR amounting to EUR 3,951 thousand (previous year: EUR 4,022 thousand), as well as transaction expenses in the Bundesbank Target system amounting to EUR 430 thousand (previous year: EUR 434 thousand), EBA Step of EUR 235 thousand (previous year: EUR 230 thousand) and Swift of EUR 107 thousand (previous year: EUR 83 thousand).

General administrative expenses
General administrative expenses consist of staff costs amounting to EUR 6,236 thousand (previous year: EUR 5,102 thousand) and other administrative expenses amounting to EUR 7,867 thousand (previous year: EUR 7,216 thousand). Staff costs consist of wages and salaries amounting to EUR 5,145 thousand (previous year: EUR 4,043 thousand) and social security contributions amounting to EUR 1,091 thousand (previous year: EUR 1,059 thousand). Other administrative expenses relate primarily to IT costs of EUR 2,340 thousand (previous year: EUR 3,191 thousand), intercompany IT costs of EUR 2,987 thousand (previous year: EUR 1,661 thousand), legal and consultancy costs of EUR 652 thousand (previous year: EUR 982 thousand), of which intercompany costs amounted to EUR 505 thousand (previous year: EUR 284 thousand), and audit costs of EUR 1,118 thousand (previous year: EUR 578 thousand).

Other operating income
Other operating income of EUR 5,719 thousand (previous year: EUR 26,430 thousand) relates primarily to income from the release of provisions for anticipated losses amounting to EUR 5,500 thousand for the 2025 financial year.

Write-downs of and value adjustments to securities held as fixed assets
Depreciation and amortization of EUR 512 thousand (previous year: EUR 389 thousand) is attributable to depreciation and amortization relating to the purchase of securities at a premium.

Income from write-ups to investments, shares in affiliated companies and securities treated as fixed assets
The income of EUR 1,000 thousand (previous year: EUR 30 thousand) is attributable to write-ups on securities that were purchased below par in the past and matured during the financial year.

Taxes on income
The reported income of EUR 1,496 thousand (previous year: EUR 830 thousand tax expense) for taxes relates to the corporation tax and trade tax refund of EUR 1,526 thousand and includes a VAT expense of EUR 30 thousand (previous year: EUR 27 thousand). The Minimum Tax Act has no impact on SECB.

5. Other Information

Auditor's fee
The total fee charged by the auditor, EY GmbH & Co. KG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft, Stuttgart, amounts to EUR 445 thousand (previous year: EUR 258 thousand).

The fees for audit services, amounting to EUR 445 thousand (previous year: EUR 258 thousand), comprise expenses for the statutory audit of SECB's annual financial statements and management report as at 31 December 2025, as well as for the audit of the consolidated financial statements.

Other financial obligations
The bank continues to have lease commitments for office premises amounting to EUR 1,427 thousand (previous year: EUR 1,544 thousand), as well as commitments for printers amounting to EUR 4 thousand (previous year: EUR 9 thousand) and a franking machine amounting to EUR 2 thousand (previous year: EUR 0 thousand).

SECB – Organs

Management Board
The following were appointed Managing Directors during the financial year 2025:

- ***Dr. Franz Michael Siener-Kirsch,***
  Member of the Management Board,
  since 1 November 2022
- ***Erdal Konak,***
  Member of the Management Board,
  since 1 January 2024

The exemption provided for in section 286(4) of the German Commercial Code (HGB) has been invoked in relation to the disclosure of the total remuneration of the Management Board.

Supervisory Board
The shareholder has appointed the following persons as members of the Supervisory Board:

- ***Dieter Goerdten,*** Chairman, since 1 February 2023
  Retired; former member of the Group Executive Board from 1 February 2023 to 30 September 2025
  SIX Group AG, Zurich
- ***Matthias Sailer,*** Vice Chairman, since 1 July 2023,
  Managing Director
  SIX Interbank Clearing AG, Zurich
- ***Johannes Bungert,*** Member of the Supervisory Board, since 28 February 2020, Head Strategy and M&A
  Managing Director
  SIX Group Services AG, Zurich
- ***Jochen Dürr,*** Member of the Supervisory Board, since 1 February 2023 until 1 January 2025, Chief Risk Officer, Member of Group Executive Board, SIX Group AG, Zurich
- ***Markus Gumpfer,*** Member of the Supervisory Board, since 24 March 2025, Chief Risk Officer, Member of Group Executive Board, SIX Group AG, Zurich

The remuneration of the Supervisory Board amounted to EUR 0 thousand (previous year: EUR 0 thousand).

Employees
On an annual average, the bank employed a total of 48 staff members in addition to the Managing Directors (previous year: 45 staff members).

Shareholders
The bank's capital is wholly owned by SIX Group AG, Zurich. The consolidated financial statements can be requested from the company's head office.
SIX Group AG
Pfingstweidstrasse 110
8005 Zurich
or at https://www.six-group.com/en/company/investors/annual-reporting.html

Disclosure in accordance with CRR
The disclosure report pursuant to Art. 435 to 455 of Regulation (EU) No. 575/2013 in conjunction with Section 26a para. 1 sentence 1 KWG is available on the SECB Euro Swiss Clearing Bank GmbH website at www.secb.de. The disclosures pursuant to Section 26a (1) sentence 2 KWG have been included in an annex to the annual financial statements.

Significant Events after the Balance Sheet Date
No events of particular significance occurred after the balance sheet date.

Dr. Franz Siener-Kirsch, CEO
Erdal Konak, CFO & CRO

SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH
Frankfurt am Main, 22 May 2026

Independent Auditor's Report

To SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH, Frankfurt am Main

Report on the Audit of the Annual Financial Statements and of the Management Report

Opinions
We have audited the annual financial statements of SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH, Frankfurt am Main, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2025, and the income statement for the fiscal year from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025, and notes to the financial statements, including the recognition and measurement policies presented therein. In addition, we have audited the management report of SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH for the fiscal year from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025.

In our opinion, on the basis of the knowledge obtained in the audit:
– the accompanying annual financial statements comply, in all material respects, with the requirements of German commercial law applicable to institutions and give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2025 and of its financial performance for the fiscal year from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 in compliance with German legally required accounting principles, and

– the accompanying management report as a whole provides an appropriate view of the Company's position. In all material respects, this management report is consistent with the annual financial statements, complies with German legal requirements and appropriately presents the opportunities and risks of future development.

Pursuant to Sec. 322 (3) Sentence 1 HGB, we declare that our audit has not led to any reservations relating to the legal compliance of the annual financial statements and of the management report.

Basis for the opinions
We conducted our audit of the financial statements and of the management report in accordance with Sec. 317 HGB and the EU Audit Regulation (No 537/2014, referred to subsequently as "EU Audit Regulation") and in compliance with German Generally Accepted Standards for Financial Statement Audits promulgated by the Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer [Institute of Public Auditors in Germany] (IDW). Our responsibilities under those requirements and principles are further described in the "Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the annual financial statements and of the management report" section of our auditor's report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the requirements of European law and German commercial and professional law as well as the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA Code), as applicable to audits of financial statements of public interest entities. We have also fulfilled our other German professional responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. In addition, in accordance with Art. 10 (2) f) of the EU Audit Regulation, we declare that we have not provided non-audit services prohibited under Art. 5 (1) of the EU Audit Regulation. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions on the consolidated financial statements and on the group management report.

Key audit matters in the audit of the annual financial statements
Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the annual financial statements for the fiscal year from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the annual financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon; we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Below, we describe what we consider to be the key audit matters:

1. Valuation of debt securities and other fixed-income securities
Reasons why the matter was determined to be a key audit matter
Under German commercial law, valuation as at the balance sheet date is based on the modified lower of cost or market principle. Indicators of impairment exist if there has been a deterioration in the issuer's credit rating by external rating agencies and if, in the case of listed bonds and other fixed-income securities, the stock exchange price as of the balance sheet date is below amortized cost. In the event of an impairment existing as of the balance sheet date, it must be assessed to what extent the impairment must be regarded as expected to be permanent. Judgments made in assessing whether impairments existing as of the balance sheet date must be regarded as expected to be permanent may have a material effect on the amount of impairments to be recognized.

Against the background of the business model of SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH, under which liquidity surpluses from the settlement of payment transactions in euros, predominantly for Swiss financial institutions, are invested mainly in bonds and other fixed-income securities, which constitute by far the largest part of the Company’s assets, we have identified the valuation of bonds and other fixed-income securities as a key audit matter.

Auditor’s response
As part of our audit, we obtained an understanding of and assessed the procedure for assessing the recoverability of bonds and other fixed-income securities. We evaluated the information underlying the executive directors’ assessment and, in particular, verified the accuracy of the issuers’ credit ratings by external rating agencies used as well as the stock exchange prices as of the reporting date used for comparison with amortized cost. In this context, we also verified that the assessment of recoverability was applied consistently. In addition, we obtained an understanding of and assessed the executive directors’ assessment of the extent to which impairments existing as of the reporting date must be regarded as expected to be permanent.

Our audit procedures did not give rise to any reservations regarding the valuation of bonds and other fixed-income securities.

Reference to related disclosures
The Company’s disclosures on the valuation of bonds and other fixed-income securities are included in Section II “Accounting and valuation” of the notes.

2. Valuation of the provision for impending losses as part of the loss-free valuation of interest-related transactions in the banking book
Reasons why the matter was determined to be a key audit matter
SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH assesses the need to recognize a provision for an excess obligation from business involving interest-related financial instruments in the banking book in accordance with § 340a in conjunction with § 249 (1) sentence 1 alternative 2 HGB and IDW Statement IDW RS BFA 3 (revised). In doing so, SECB applies the present value method.

Against the background of the Company’s business model, under which liquidity surpluses from the settlement of payment transactions in euros, predominantly for Swiss financial institutions, are still invested largely in bonds and other fixed-income securities, which are matched on the liabilities side by variable-interest liabilities to banks, we have identified the valuation of the provision for impending losses recognized in connection with the loss-free valuation of interest-related banking book transactions as a key audit matter.

Auditor’s response
We have assessed the Company’s approach to determining the provision for impending losses recognized in connection with the loss-free valuation of interest-related banking book transactions as to whether the selected method is consistent with the professional pronouncement of the Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer in Deutschland e.V. on the loss-free valuation of interest-related banking book transactions, interest rate book, IDW RS BFA 3 (revised). In this context, we in particular assessed the determination of future interest claims from the overnight facilities at Deutsche Bundesbank and from securities transactions as well as the future interest obligations from customer deposits set against these.

Our audit procedures did not give rise to any reservations regarding the valuation of the provision for impending losses recognized in connection with the loss-free valuation of interest-related banking book transactions.

Reference to related disclosures
The Company’s disclosures on the measurement of the provision for impending losses recognized in connection with the loss-free measurement of interest-related banking book transactions are included in section II. “Accounting and valuation” of the notes to the financial statements.

Responsibilities of the executive directors and the supervisory borad for the annual financial statements and the management report
The executive directors are responsible for the preparation of the annual financial statements that comply, in all material respects, with the requirements of German commercial law applicable to institutions, and that the annual financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and financial performance of the Company in compliance with German legally required accounting principles. In addition, the executive directors are responsible for such internal control as they, in accordance with German legally required accounting principles, have determined necessary to enable the preparation of annual financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud (i.e., fraudulent financial reporting and misappropriation of assets) or error.

In preparing the annual financial statements, the executive directors are responsible for assessing the Company’s ability to continue as a going concern. They also have the responsibility for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern. In addition, they are responsible for financial reporting based on the going concern basis of accounting, provided no actual or legal circumstances conflict therewith.

Furthermore, the executive directors are responsible for the preparation of the management report that, as a whole, provides an appropriate view of the Company's position and is, in all material respects, consistent with the annual financial statements, complies with German legal requirements and appropriately presents the opportunities and risks of future development. In addition, the executive directors are responsible for such arrangements and measures (systems) as they have considered necessary to enable the preparation of a management report that is in accordance with the applicable German legal requirements, and to be able to provide sufficient appropriate evidence for the assertions in the management report.

The supervisory board is responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process for the preparation of the annual financial statements and of the management report.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the annual financial statements and of the management report
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and whether the management report as a whole provides an appropriate view of the Company's position and, in all material respects, is consistent with the annual financial statements and the knowledge obtained in the audit, complies with the German legal requirements and appropriately presents the opportunities and risks of future development, as well as to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions on the annual financial statements and on the management report.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Sec. 317 HGB and the EU Audit Regulation and in compliance with German Generally Accepted Standards for Financial Statement Audits promulgated by the Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer (IDW) will always detect a material misstatement. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these annual financial statements and this management report.

We exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the annual financial statements and of the management report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit of the annual financial statements and of arrangements and measures relevant to the audit of the management report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control and of such arrangements and measures.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used by the executive directors and the reasonableness of estimates made by the executive directors and related disclosures.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the executive directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the annual financial statements and in the management report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our respective opinions. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to be able to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the annual financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the annual financial statements present the underlying transactions and events in a manner that the annual financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and financial performance of the Company in compliance with German legally required accounting principles.

- Evaluate the consistency of the management report with the annual financial statements, its conformity with [German] law, and the view of the Company's position it provides.

- Perform audit procedures on the prospective information presented by the executive directors in the management report. On the basis of sufficient appropriate audit evidence we evaluate, in particular, the significant assumptions used by the executive directors as a basis for the prospective information, and evaluate the proper derivation of the prospective information from these assumptions. We do not express a separate opinion on the prospective information and on the assumptions used as a basis. There is a substantial unavoidable risk that future events will differ materially from the prospective information.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with the relevant independence requirements, and communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence and where applicable, the related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the annual financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter.

Other legal and regulatory requirements

Further information pursuant to Art. 10 of the EU Audit Regulation

We were elected as auditor by the shareholders' meeting on 25 June 2025. We were engaged by the management on 16 September 2025. We have been the auditor of SECB Swiss Euro Clearing Bank GmbH without interruption since fiscal year 2019.

We declare that the opinions expressed in this auditor's report are consistent with the additional report to the audit committee pursuant to Art. 11 of the EU Audit Regulation (long-form audit report).

German Public Auditor responsible for the engagement

The German Public Auditor responsible for the engagement is Lukas Sierleja.
Eschborn/Frankfurt am Main, 27 May 2026

EY GmbH & Co. KG
Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

Sierleja, Wirtschaftsprüfer (German Public Auditor)
Stapel, Wirtschaftsprüfer (German Public Auditor)

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