

2005-08-01

## **PRESS RELEASE**

---

### **Reaction of Mr. Guy Quaden, governor of the National Bank of Belgium, on the death of Mr. Wim Duisenberg**

In the United States where he is on holiday, the governor learned with surprise and sadness of the passing away of president Duisenberg.

Mr. Duisenberg has been the president of the central bank of the Netherlands for a long time but according to Quaden it is with the euro that Mr Duisenberg's name will undoubtedly be linked in the history of European integration.

It is on the Governing Council of the European Central Bank (ECB) that the governor of the National Bank of Belgium has frequented Wim Duisenberg regularly from 1999 to 2003. He particularly appreciated Wim Duisenberg's open personality and his collegiality.

He has been, according to Quaden, the efficient trainer of a team that has successfully introduced the euro in the financial sphere first and then in the day to day life of millions of Europeans and who has rapidly assured the credibility of the new currency.

In his personal name and in the name of the National Bank of Belgium, Guy Quaden pays homage to the deceased and conveys his heartfelt condolences to his family.