

§ 956.4

where the purchase of such obligations by the Bank provides to the issuer the customized terms, necessary liquidity, or favorable pricing required to generate needed funding for housing or community lending;

(iv) Mortgage-backed securities, or asset-backed securities collateralized by manufactured housing loans or home equity loans, that meet the definition of the term “securities” under 15 U.S.C. 77b(a)(1); and

(v) Loans held or acquired pursuant to section 12(b) of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1432(b)).

(b) *Foreign currency or commodity positions prohibited.* A Bank may not take a position in any commodity or foreign currency. A Bank may participate in consolidated obligations denominated in a currency other than U.S. Dollars or linked to equity or commodity prices, provided that the Bank meets the requirements of § 966.8(d) of this chapter, and all other applicable requirements related to issuing consolidated obligations.

[65 FR 43985, July 17, 2000, as amended at 66 FR 8320, Jan. 30, 2001; 67 FR 12853, Mar. 20, 2002]

§ 956.4 Risk-based capital requirement for investments.

Each Bank shall hold retained earnings plus general allowance for losses as support for the credit risk of all investments that are not rated by an NRSRO, or are rated or have a putative rating below the second highest credit rating, in an amount equal to or greater than the outstanding balance of the investments multiplied by:

(a) A factor associated with the credit rating of the investments as determined by the Finance Board on a case-by-case basis for rated assets to be sufficient to raise the credit quality of the asset to the second highest credit rating category; and

(b) 0.08 for assets having neither a putative nor actual rating.

[65 FR 43985, July 17, 2000, as amended at 67 FR 12853, Mar. 20, 2002]

§ 956.5 Authorization for derivative contracts and other transactions.

A Bank may enter into the following types of transactions:

(a) Derivative contracts;

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(b) Standby letters of credit, pursuant to the requirements of part 960 of this chapter;

(c) Forward asset purchases and sales;

(d) Commitments to make advances; and

(e) Commitments to make or purchase other loans.

[66 FR 8320, Jan. 30, 2001, as amended at 67 FR 12853, Mar. 20, 2002]

§ 956.6 Use of hedging instruments.

(a) *Applicability of GAAP.* Derivative instruments that do not qualify as hedging instruments pursuant to GAAP may be used only if a non-speculative use is documented by the Bank.

(b) *Documentation requirements.* (1) Transactions with a single counterparty shall be governed by a single master agreement when practicable.

(2) A Bank’s agreement with the counterparty for over-the-counter derivative contracts shall include:

(i) A requirement that market value determinations and subsequent adjustments of collateral be made at least on a monthly basis;

(ii) A statement that failure of a counterparty to meet a collateral call will result in an early termination event;

(iii) A description of early termination pricing and methodology, with the methodology reflecting a reasonable estimate of the market value of the over-the-counter derivative contract at termination (standard International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. language relative to early termination pricing and methodology may be used to satisfy this requirement); and

(iv) A requirement that the Bank’s consent be obtained prior to the transfer of an agreement or contract by a counterparty.

[66 FR 8321, Jan. 30, 2001]

PART 960—STANDBY LETTERS OF CREDIT

Sec.

960.1 Definitions.

960.2 Standby letters of credit on behalf of members.