DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Proposed Collections; Comment Requests

AGENCY: Departmental Offices; Department of the Treasury.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on revisions of an information collection that are proposed for approval by the Office of Management and Budget. The Office of International Affairs within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the revisions of the Treasury International Capital (TIC) Forms BC, BL-1, BL-2, BQ-1, BQ-2, and BQ-3 (called the “TIC B forms”).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Dwight Wolkow, International Portfolio Investment Data Systems, Department of the Treasury, Room 5422, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington DC 20220. In view of possible delays in mail delivery, please also notify Mr. Wolkow at the email or telephone contact mentioned in the next section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Copies of the proposed forms and instructions are available on the Treasury’s TIC Forms webpage, http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/data-chart-center/tic/Pages/forms.aspx. Requests for additional information should be directed to Mr. Wolkow by email (comments2TIC@treasury.gov) or telephone (202-622-1276).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:


Abstract: Forms BC, BL-1, BL-2, BQ-1, BQ-2, BQ-3 are part of the Treasury International Capital (TIC) reporting system, which is required by law (22 U.S.C. 286f; 22 U.S.C. 3103; E.O. 10033; 31 CFR 128) and are designed to collect timely information on international portfolio capital movements. These forms are filed by all U.S.-resident financial institutions. On the monthly forms, these organizations report their own claims on (BC), their own liabilities to (BL-1), and their U.S. customers’ liabilities to (BL-2) foreign residents, denominated in U.S. dollars. On the quarterly forms, these organizations report their U.S.-resident customers’ U.S. dollar claims on foreign residents (BQ-1), and their own and their domestic customers’ claims and liabilities with foreign residents, where all claims and liabilities are denominated in foreign currencies (BQ-2). On the quarterly BQ-3 form, these organizations report the remaining maturities of all
their own U.S. dollar and foreign currency liabilities and claims (excluding securities) with foreign residents. This information is necessary for compiling the U.S. balance of payments accounts and the U.S. international investment position, and for use in formulating U.S. international financial and monetary policies.

Current Actions: Changes in forms BC and BQ-1 are proposed. No changes to the other Forms are proposed. (a) In Form BQ-1, a new line titled “Brokerage Balances” is added in the "Of Which" Items section. The amount of brokerage balances included in the form’s first column “Non-Negotiable Foreign Deposits” is needed to implement new estimates that will help bring the U.S. balance of payments into better compliance with the international reporting standards in the Balance of Payments Manual, 6th Edition (BPM6). (b) In Form BC, the title of the "Of Which" line 8132-9 is expanded to read “Unpaid Insurance Claims And Prepaid Insurance Premiums.” This clarifies that prepaid insurance premiums are to be reported in this line. (c) In Form BC, the extra text in parenthesis “(Please ...)” is removed in the title box of the “Of Which” line 8200-9 “Assets Written Off This Reporting Period”. The following are all changes in the instructions. (d) Section II.C.3 in the instructions is clarified to indicate prepaid insurance premiums are included in the "Of Which" line 8132-9 of the TIC BC form. (e) Section V.C.4 is added to the instructions for reporting the new "Of Which" row called “Brokerage Balances” in the TIC BQ-1 form.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Forms: BC, BL-1, BL-2, BQ-1, BQ-2, and BQ-3

Estimated Number of Respondents: BC, 320; BL-1, 360; BL-2, 110; BQ-1, 85; BQ-2,
190 and BQ-3, 155.

Estimated average Time per Respondent per Filing: BC, 11.2 hours; BL-1, 7.7 hours; BL-2, 8.9 hours; BQ-1, 3.8 hours; BQ-2, 7.8 hours; and BQ-3, 10.5 hours. The average time varies, and is estimated to be generally twice as many hours for major data reporters as for other reporters.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: BC, 43,170 hours for 12 reports per year; BL-1, 33,440 hours for 12 reports per year; BL-2, 11,760 hours for 12 reports per year; BQ-1, 1,290 hours for 4 reports per year, BQ-2, 5,960 hours for 4 reports per year; and BQ-3, 6,510 hours for 4 reports per year.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. The public is invited to submit written comments concerning: (a) whether Forms BC, BL-1, BL-2, BQ-1, BQ-2, and BQ-3 are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Office, including whether the information will have practical uses; (b) the accuracy of the above estimate of the burdens; (c) ways to enhance the quality, usefulness and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the reporting and/or record keeping burdens on respondents, including the use of information technologies to automate the collection of the data; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs of operation, maintenance and purchase of services to provide information.

Dwight Wolkow,
Administrator, International Portfolio Investment Data Systems.

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