



## **Publication of *Gold Survey 2005 - Update 1***

### **Net official sector sales reach record level in first half 2005**

Net official sector sales in the first half of 2005 reached 407 tonnes, the highest half-yearly level ever recorded by GFMS and more than twice the total seen over the first six months of 2004. The exceptionally high figure seen over the period was the outcome of high gross sales and, to a much lesser extent, minimal activity on the buy-side. Signatories to the second Central Bank Gold Agreement (CBGA) once again accounted for the bulk of official sector sales over the period, although sales from outside the Agreement were by no means insignificant.

The third quarter of 2005 has been relatively quiet on the official sales front. The main reason for this is the high level of CBGA sales that took place from October 2004 through to June 2005. Given the 500 tonne limit that is meant to apply for each "Agreement year", this has reduced the quantity available for sale in the third quarter. By contrast, a pick-up in quarterly CBGA sales is expected in the fourth quarter of 2005. In spite of this, total net official sector sales in the second half as a whole are forecast by GFMS to decline from the very high first half level. Nevertheless, net sales for the full year 2005 are still expected to come in some 40% above 2004's total.

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**Gold Survey 2005 - Update 1** provides a thorough and comprehensive interim analysis of the most recent developments in the global gold market. In just 40 pages, *Update 1* identifies the most important economic, socio-political and market-specific issues facing the gold market.

The publication can be ordered from GFMS for £205 or US\$375 / €315 per copy. For orders and to receive further product information please contact Ms L. Perrard on: Tel: +44 (0)20 7478 1777, Fax: +44 (0)20 7478 1779, Email: sales@gfms.co.uk, Web Site: www.gfms.co.uk

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