

**Regulatory
Developments**

PBC issues Notice on Centralized Clearing of RMB Interest Rate Swaps

The Notice requires RMB Interest Rate Swap (IRS) transactions to be submitted to Shanghai Clearing House for centralized clearing. Shanghai Clearing House, as central counterparty, shall succeed the rights and obligations of the transaction parties, and calculate participants' net interests on multi-lateral netting basis on the same settlement date. The Notice also requires establishing appropriate risk control mechanisms to ensure contract fulfillment and complete net interest settlement.

[PBC Notice](#) (Currently Only Available in Chinese)

Policy to allow Shanghai FTZ to expand cross-border RMB payments officially launched

PBC released "Notice on Supporting China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone to Expand Cross-border RMB Payments" on 21 February, which further simplifies RMB cross-border settlement in FTZ under current account and direct investment. The Notice also specifies standards on offshore RMB loans, bi-directional RMB cash pool, centralized cross-border RMB collection and payment, as well as individual cross-border RMB business.

The detailed rules provide that non-bank financial institutions and enterprises within FTZ can borrow RMB from overseas, but the amount shall not exceed the multiple of paid-up capital multiplied by macro-prudential policy factor (1 time of paid-up capital for enterprises and 1.5 times for non-bank financial institutions within FTZ), and loan tenor must exceed 1 year. According to relevant provisions, borrowers within FTZ can open special deposit accounts with banks in Shanghai, which can only be used within FTZ or overseas, including production, operation and construction projects within FTZ and overseas construction projects.

[Media News](#) (Currently Only Available in Chinese)

Shanghai FTZ lifts foreign-currency deposit rates cap

China's central bank will remove interest rate ceilings on smaller foreign-currency deposits in the Shanghai Free Trade Zone (FTZ) from March 1. The relaxation applies to deposits of less than 3 million U.S. dollars owned by businesses and agencies registered in the zone or by individuals who have worked in the zone for more than

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one year. Currently, regulatory caps apply to one-year or other shorter-term deposits in U.S. dollars, Japanese yen, euro and Hong Kong dollars. Deposits worth more than 3 million U.S. dollars are not subject to ceilings.

[Media News](#)

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