

MNB Decree
No. 38/2020 (X. 21.) of the Governor of the Magyar Nemzeti Bank
on amending MNB Decree No. 19/2019 (V. 13.) on the processing and distribution of banknotes, and
on technical tasks relating to the protection of banknotes against counterfeiting

Having regard to the authorisation by Article 171 (2) b) of Act CXXXIX of 2013 on the Magyar Nemzeti Bank, and acting within my scope of duty laid down in Article 4 (2) of Act CXXXIX of 2013 on the Magyar Nemzeti Bank, I hereby decree the following:

Article 1 (1) Article 2 of MNB Decree No. 19/2019 (V. 13.) on the processing and distribution of banknotes, and on technical tasks relating to the protection of banknotes against counterfeiting (hereinafter referred to as 'Decree') shall be extended with the following point 8a:

(For the purposes of this Decree, the following definitions shall apply)

"8a. *consumer*: a person defined in the Act on the Civil Code;"

(2) Point 13 of Article 2 of the Decree shall be replaced with the following provision:

(For the purposes of this Decree, the following definitions shall apply)

"13. *exchanging forint banknotes*:

a) replacement of forint banknotes withdrawn from circulation before the deadline specified in Article 23 (3) of the MNB Act

aa) for forint banknotes of the same denomination and fit for circulation,

ab) acceptance for payment, including deposits to the customer's own payment account,

ac) accepting deposits with a machine operated by the customer as specified in Point 5 b) ba)-bc),

b) replacement of forint banknotes that are difficult to recognize, along with damaged banknotes

ba) for forint banknotes of the same denominations and fit for circulation,

bb) acceptance for payment, including deposits to the customer's own payment account;"

(3) Point 24 d) of Article 2 of the Decree shall be replaced with the following provision:

(For the purposes of this Decree, the following definitions shall apply)

cash distributors:

"d) the institution operating the Postal Settlement System (hereinafter referred to as 'postal service'),"

Article 2 (1) Article 21 (1) of the Decree shall be replaced with the following provision, and Article 21 shall be extended with the following (1a) and (1b) paragraph:

"(1) With the exception defined in paragraph (1a), the credit institution and the postal service shall carry out denomination exchange of forint banknotes and exchanging forint banknotes in all of their permanent and mobile branches and post offices. If the credit institution and the postal service operates a customer-operated machine specified in Article 2 5 b) ba)-bc), it shall meet its obligation to exchange the banknotes withdrawn from circulation by accepting the deposit through the customer-operated machine, too.

(1a) The obligation under paragraph (1) shall not apply to the credit institution branch and post office without counters if

a) the credit institution provides only a service specified in Article 3 (1) b) of the Credit Institutions Act in its branch without counters,

b) the credit institution or the postal service operates at least one permanent branch or post office in the same district of the capital or in the same settlement, with or without counters, which carry out denomination exchange of forint banknotes and exchanging forint banknotes,

c) the credit institution or the postal service operates its branch without counters in a town belonging to the agglomeration area of the capital, which has access to another permanent capital branch of the credit institution or the postal service, with or without counters, carrying out denomination exchange of forint banknotes and exchanging forint banknotes within 20 km of the administrative border of the town.

(1b) If the credit institution or the postal service operates only a branch without counters in the given town, it may use a contributor to fulfill the obligation to denomination exchange of forint banknotes and exchanging forint banknotes. Contributor may only be a credit institution, the postal service or an intermediary providing currency exchange services in accordance with the Credit Institutions Act. The credit institution and the postal service are obliged to notify the MNB of the use of the contributor in advance, no later than 5 working days before the use, in an electronic message sent to the e-mail address kpl-ellenorzes@mnbb.hu, giving the following data: name, headquarters and company registration number of the contributor, address of branches involved in the contribution.”

(2) Article 21 (4) of the Decree shall be replaced with the following provision:

“(4) The credit institution and the postal service may make the exchanging forint banknotes exceeding 10 pieces, in the case of a branch/office without a counter also denomination exchange of forint banknotes exceeding 10 pieces, subject to a preliminary notification, provided that the exchange is completed within two days of the receipt of the customer’s request for exchange.”

Article 3

a) In Article 20 of the Decree, the words “credit institution” shall be replaced by the words “credit institution with consumer customers (hereinafter for the purposes of this subtitle referred to as ‘credit institution’)”,

b) in Article 21 (5) and (6) of the Decree, the words “by the cashier” shall be replaced by the words “in the location of denomination exchange of forint banknotes and exchanging forint banknotes”,

c) in Article 22 (1) c) of the Decree, the word “post” shall be replaced by the words “permanent post”,

d) in Article 22 (2) a) of the Decree, the words “for exchanging forint banknotes” shall be replaced by the words “for exchanging forint banknotes according to Article 2 13 a) aa) and b) ba)”,

e) in Article 23 (2) of the Decree, the words “address of its nearest branch office” shall be replaced by the words “address of its nearest branch office, and in the case of using a contributor, the name of the contributor and the address of its given branch”,

f) in Article 23 (3) of the Decree, the words “its branches” shall be replaced by the words “its branches, and in the case of using a contributor, the list of the contributor’s given branches”.

Article 4 This Decree shall enter into force on 1 March 2021.

Article 5 The preliminary consultation of this draft Decree pursuant to the second indent of Article 2 (1) of Council Decision 98/415/EC of 29 June 1998 on the consultation of the European Central Bank by national authorities regarding draft legislative provisions has been performed.