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RBI announces draft directions on facilities for hedging foreign exchange risk by Residents and Non-residents (Amended)

The Reserve Bank of India today released a <u>draft</u> of the revised directions and regulations on facilities for hedging foreign exchange risk by Residents and Non-residents. Comments on the draft directions are invited from banks, market participants and other interested parties by March 15, 2019.

Feedback on the draft directions may be forwarded to:

The Chief General Manager, Reserve Bank of India Financial Markets Regulation Department 1st Floor, Main Building Shahid Bhagat Singh Marg Mumbai – 400001

Or by email with subject line "Feedback - facilities for hedging foreign exchange risk"

Background

A review of the existing facilities for hedging of foreign exchange risk by non-residents and residents was announced in the <u>Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies in</u> <u>February 2018</u> and <u>August 2018</u> respectively.

Post review, a draft of the revised directions is being put in the public domain for seeking comments. The draft directions propose to, *inter alia*:

(i) Merge the facilities for residents and non-residents into a single unified facility for all users,

- (ii) Allow users having valid exposure to hedge the same using any available instrument,
- (iii) Introduce the facility to hedge anticipated exposure,
- (iv) Simplify the procedures for authorised dealers to offer foreign exchange derivatives.

Once finalised, the directions shall replace the existing directions in Part A - Section I and II of the <u>Master Direction on Risk Management and Interbank Dealings</u>.

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