

Preface

This report evaluates the role of the IMF in Argentina during 1991–2001, focusing particularly on the period of crisis management from 2000 until early 2002. It was prepared by a team headed by Shinji Takagi and including Benjamin Cohen, Isabelle Mateos y Lago, Misa Takebe, and Ricardo Martin. It also benefited from substantive contributions from Nouriel Roubini and Miguel Broda. The report was approved by Montek S. Ahluwalia, then Director of the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). Research assistance and logistical support in Argentina from Nicolas Arregui; administrative support by Annette Canizares, Arun Bhatnagar, Maria Gutierrez, and Florence Conteh; and editorial work by Ian McDonald and Esha Ray are gratefully acknowledged.

In keeping with standard IEO procedures, parties whose actions and decisions were evaluated, including IMF staff and previous Argentine authorities, were given a chance to comment on a draft of the report, but the final judgments are the responsibility of the IEO alone. The final version of the report was submitted to IMF management for comments, and also circulated simultaneously to Executive Directors. The report, with management and staff comments and the IEO response, was discussed by the Executive Board on July 26, 2004. The report is being published as discussed by the Board, along with a statement to the Executive Board by the Governor of the IMF for Argentina and the Chairman’s Summing Up of the Board discussion.

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