The *Global Financial Stability Report* (GFSR) assesses global financial market developments with a view to identifying potential systemic weaknesses. By calling attention to potential fault lines in the global financial system, the report seeks to play a role in preventing crises, thereby contributing to global financial stability and to sustained economic growth of the IMF’s member countries.

The report was prepared by the International Capital Markets (ICM) Department, under the direction of the Counsellor and Director, Gerd Häusler. It is managed by an Editorial Committee comprising Hung Q. Tran (Chairman), Peter Dattels, Todd Groome, and Ceyla Pazarbasioglu, and it benefits from comments and suggestions from Axel Bertuch-Samuels and Charles R. Blitzer. Other ICM staff contributing to this issue include Geoffrey Bannister, Brian Bell, Nicolas Blancher, Elie Canetti, Marcelo Carvalho, Dale Gray, Francois Haas, Kristian Hartelius, Anna Ilyina, Andreas Jobst, Herman Kamil, John Kiff, William Lee, Cheng Hoon Lim, Pipat Luengnaruemitchai, Carlos Medeiros, Chris Morris, Shinobu Nakagawa, Michael Papaioannou, Lars Pedersen, Magdalena Polan, Bozena Radzewicz-Bak, Parmeshwar Ramlogan, Paul Ross, Mustafa Saiyid, Hemant Shah, G. Edwin Smith III, Laura Valderrama, Christopher Walker, Mark Walsh, and Luisa Zanforlin. A staff team led by David Marston and Kal Wajid from the Monetary and Financial Systems Department (MFD) contributed on banking sector developments in emerging markets, and Udaibir S. Das and Allison Holland (also MFD) contributed on debt management issues in Chapter III. Martin Edmonds, Patricia Gillett, Ivan Guerra, Silvia Iorgova, Oksana Khadarina, Yoon Sook Kim, Ned Rumpeltin, and Peter Tran (all ICM), as well as Kalin Tintchev (MFD), provided analytical support. Caroline Bagworth, Norma Cayo, Rosemarie Edwards, Vera Jasenovic, Elsa Portaro-Cracel, and Ramanjeet Singh provided expert word processing assistance. Archana Kumar of the External Relations Department edited the manuscript and coordinated production of the publication.

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