

ac8b59de@whatdothevknow.com

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request-77546-

1 Horse Guards Road London SW1A 2HQ

21 July 2011

Information Rights Unit

Tel: 0207 270 4558

Fax: 0207 270 4861

www.hmtreasury.gov.uk FOI.responses@hmtreasury.gsi.gov.uk

Ref: 11/527

Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000: [TOPIC]

Thank you for your enquiry dated 24th June which we received on 27th June.

You asked for information since 1997on -

- How many times has the UK Government approached the IMF or any other similar establishment to Borrow?
- How many contracts to date have been completed?
- How many are still active?
- To date, how much is borrowed?
- How much is the total repayable?
- What are the defaults, if any, please list.
- What guarantees have been put forward on behalf of the UK Government.

We would point out that, under section 8(1)(b) of the Act, requests must state the name of the applicant. It appears that this part of the Act has not been complied with in relation to your request. Although we do not consider that this is a valid request under the Act to be helpful we have tried to answer your questions.

Since 1997, the UK has not approached the IMF to borrow any money. The UK is in fact a lender to the IMF.

The UK provides funding to the IMF via two routes, through its quota subscription and through its participation as a creditor of the IMF's 'New Arrangements to Borrow' (NAB). These arrangements are detailed on the IMF's website at:

- http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/facts/quotas.htm and
- http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/facts/gabnab.htm.



UNCLASSIFIED

In 2009, the UK also provided the IMF with access to credit via a bilateral loan. This is no longer available to the IMF to fund new programmes following the ratification of the NAB in March 2011.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. It will be helpful to us if you remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Information Rights Unit HM Treasury

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
If you are not happy with this reply, you may request a review by writing to HM Treasury, Information Rights Unit, 2/S2, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ.
Email FOI.responses@hmtreasury.gov.uk

Any review request must be made within 2 months of the date of this letter. It would assist our review if you set out which aspects of the reply concern you and why you are dissatisfied.

If you are not content with the outcome your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Treasury. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.