Increase of inter-bank fees on cash withdrawals: the Autorité denies gving approval to GIE CB

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Following information published today in *Les Echos* in an article titled « *Pourquoi le coût des retraits en liquide pourrait augmenter* » (why the cost of cash withdrawals could increase), the Autorité de la concurrence would like to provide the following clarifications:

- Contrary to what has been stated, the Autorité de la concurrence did not give GIE CB the green light to increase interbank withdrawal fees;
- The Autorité follows closely the evolution of practices in the banking sector and underlines that it has the possibility of starting proceedings ex officio or be referred a case in case of potential anticompetitive practices.

By way of a reminder, the intervention of the Autorité de la concurrence led in 2011 to the GIE CB lowering the amount of several interbank fees, among which the interbank withdrawal fee (see press release of 11 July). Though the GIE GB is not bound anymore by the commitments taken back then, it is still required to comply with competition rules.

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