

HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

**PRESS RELEASE**

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STATE BUDGET EXECUTION JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2010

According to the data available, the state budget execution for the first two months of 2010 (January- February), on a fiscal basis, indicates that the deficit declined by 77.3% and amounted to 904 million euro versus 3,986 million euro during the same period of 2009.

In particular, net revenues of the ordinary budget increased by 13.2%, in comparison to the same period of the previous year, against an annual target of an increase of 11.7%, set in the Stability and Growth Program (SGP). This development reflects also receipts amounting to 713 million euro deriving from the imposition of an extraordinary tax on the profits of large companies for the year 2008, increased receipts from the excise tax and corresponding VAT on fuel, tobacco and alcoholic beverages due to the adjustment of their tax rates, as well as a reduction in tax refunds by 325 million euro compared to the same period of the previous year.

Ordinary budget expenditures during the same time period declined by 9.6% against a target of a reduction of 3.5% set in the SGP. In particular, primary expenditures decreased by 9.3% and expenditures for interest decreased by 12.0%. Decrease of primary expenditures is mainly due to restriction of expenditures for health and social security (lower grants to the Social Security Funds by 433 million euro compared to the respective period of 2009), reduced operational and other expenses, such as grants and consumption expenditure, by 396 million euro and, finally, reduced third-party returned resources by 93 million euro.

Public Investment Budget (PIB) expenditures are declined by 58.2%, whereas PIB revenues increased by 3.9%, compared to the same period of 2009.