Today the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) published its Operational Report 2018. This publication provides a synopsis of the CBA’s mandate and key policy objectives as laid down in the Central Bank Ordinance, as well as its strategic framework in place to implement its strategic plan “Bela yen: Nos Plan Strategico 2016-2020” (Bela Yen). It also highlights the main developments in the monetary sector, the financial system, and the payments system, along with the prime operational activities carried out by the CBA in 2018. In the last chapter of this report, the financial highlights of the CBA’s operations are presented.

Below an overview of some of the primary developments that took place in 2018:

- A key achievement for the CBA included the further rollout of its strategic plan “Bela Yen”, in which its strategic ambitions and intended results are set for the period up to 2020.

- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the CBA met seven times during 2018 to assess and analyze several monetary and economic indicators, and to evaluate the adjustments to its monetary instruments, if economic developments required such an action. Since these economic indicators remained adequate throughout 2018, the MPC decided to uphold the CBA’s main monetary instrument, the reserve requirement, at 11 percent, and the advance rate at 1 percent.

- The level of the international reserves remained adequate throughout 2018, when benchmarked against the CBA’s traditional critical norms, supporting the fixed exchange rate regime of the florin with the US dollar.

* The publications of the Centrale Bank van Aruba are also available on its website www.cbaruba.org.
The financial sector as a whole remained adequately capitalized, liquid, and profitable in 2018. The regulatory framework was also strengthened further, inter alia, with the introduction of new and/or revised legislation and supervisory directives and guidelines.

In 2018, the CBA established a new Payments System Department with the aim of supporting the CBA with the development and implementation of the policy and strategic initiatives in the area of the payments infrastructure, as well as with the preparations for the task of oversight on the payments infrastructure.

The financial position of the CBA remained solid. The primary source of revenue, i.e., the proceeds from its foreign exchange investment portfolio, has strengthened, reflecting the positive developments in the global financial markets in 2018. For further information please refer to the Condensed Financial Statements 2018 of the CBA.

The OPERATIONAL REPORT 2018 is available on the CBA’s website www.cbaruba.org as of today.