



Press release 2018-042

New cases of counterfeit banknotes in circulation

Willemstad/Philipsburg - The *Centrale Bank van Curaçao en Sint Maarten* (CBCS) has once again received various counterfeit NAF. 100 banknotes via some commercial banks, as well as a couple of counterfeit NAF. 5 coins. This time, the banknotes are of very high quality and difficult to distinguish from genuine banknotes. This also applies to the counterfeit coins.

The counterfeit banknotes that were submitted to us have the following features:

- The watermark, that normally should be recognized when held up against the light, is now directly visible on the banknote.
- The signatures on the banknotes are faint and can easily be removed with a little water.
- The banknotes are most probably photocopies of genuine banknotes, however, they are not accurately cut out. Consequently, the notes have a white border to the bottom.
- The words “auteursrecht bank van de Nederlandse Antillen” at the right end on the reverse of the banknotes is not clearly legible. The words “auteursrecht” and “bank” are incomplete, they lack a few characters.
- The banknotes have the following serial numbers:
 - 8255939013
 - 8255959785
 - 8255401400
 - 8253551472

The counterfeit NAF. 5 coins have as issue year 1998 or 1999 and are just a bit smaller or larger than a genuine 5-guilder coin. The difference in size is not directly noticeable. One of the security features of a genuine 5-guilder coins is the magnetic feature, which means that the coin sticks to a magnet. The counterfeit coins do not have this feature and hence do not stick to a magnet. Also, when you drop a counterfeit coin it makes a different sound than when dropping a genuine coin. The latter makes a more heavy sound.

The CBCS has been informed by different commercial banks that they have received counterfeit banknotes of the denominations NAF. 25 and NAF. 50 as well, which they have submitted to the local police. The CBCS closely cooperates with the police in this matter.

Once again, the CBCS wants to alert the public to pay attention when accepting banknotes of any denomination. If you find yourself in the situation where you doubt the authenticity of a banknote, we strongly advise you not to accept the suspect banknote.

You are reminded that it is illegal for any person and or institution to accept counterfeit banknotes. You are advised to immediately contact the police if you think you are dealing with a counterfeit banknote. The counterfeiting of banknotes and the fraudulent use of counterfeit means of payment are punishable by imprisonment of up to 9 years.

For more information about the security features of banknotes please visit our website
<http://www.centralbank.cw/banknotes>.

Willemstad, October 5, 2018

CENTRALE BANK VAN CURAÇAO EN SINT MAARTEN