

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP AG
Form 6-K
March 26, 2010

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 6-K

**REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16
UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

March 26, 2010

Commission File Number 001-15244

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP AG

(Translation of registrant's name into English)
Paradeplatz 8, P.O. Box 1, CH-8070 Zurich, Switzerland
(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted solely to provide an attached annual report to security holders.

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted to furnish a report or other document that the registrant foreign private issuer must furnish and make public under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the registrant is incorporated, domiciled or legally organized (the registrant's "home country"), or under the rules of the home country exchange on which the registrant's securities are traded, as long as the report or other document is not a press release, is not required to be and has not been distributed to the registrant's security holders, and, if discussing a material event, has already been the subject of a Form 6-K submission or other Commission filing on EDGAR.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP AG

(Registrant)

Date: March 26, 2010

By:

/s/ Tobias Guldemann

Tobias Guldemann

Chief Risk Officer

By:

/s/ Renato Fassbind

Renato Fassbind

Chief Financial Officer

For purposes of this report, unless the context otherwise requires, the terms “Credit Suisse,” “the Group,” “we,” “us” and “our” mean Credit Suisse Group AG and its consolidated subsidiaries. The business of Credit Suisse AG, the Swiss bank subsidiary of the Group, is substantially similar to the Group, and we use these terms to refer to both when the subject is the same or substantially similar. We use the term “the Bank” when we are only referring to Credit Suisse AG, the Swiss bank subsidiary of the Group, and its consolidated subsidiaries.

In various tables, use of “–” indicates not meaningful or not applicable.

1. Introduction

2. Capital

3. Risk exposure and assessment

4. Credit risk

5. Securitization risk

6. Market risk

7. Operational risk

8. Equity securities in the banking book

9. Interest rate risk in the banking book

List of abbreviations

1. Introduction

The purpose of this Pillar 3 report is to provide updated information as of December 31, 2009 on our implementation of the Basel II framework and risk assessment processes in accordance with the Pillar 3 requirements. This document should be read in conjunction with the Credit Suisse Annual Report 2009, which include important information on regulatory capital and risk management (specific references have been made herein to those documents). Since January 1, 2008, Credit Suisse has operated under the international capital adequacy standards set forth by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, known as Basel II, as implemented by the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA).

In certain cases, the Pillar 3 disclosures differ from the way we manage our risks for internal management purposes and disclose them in the Annual Report. For further information regarding the way that we manage risk, refer to III – Treasury, Risk, Balance sheet and Off-balance sheet – Risk management (pages 117 to 136) in the Credit Suisse Annual Report 2009. For further information on economic capital, our core Group-wide risk management tool, refer to III – Treasury, Risk, Balance sheet and Off-balance sheet – Treasury management (pages 113 to 115) in the Credit Suisse Annual Report 2009.

Certain reclassifications have been made to prior periods to conform to the current period's presentation.

The Pillar 3 report is produced and published semi-annually, in accordance with FINMA requirements.

This report has not been audited by the Group's external auditors. However, it also includes information that is contained within the audited consolidated financial statements as reported in the Credit Suisse Annual Report 2009.

Scope of application

The highest consolidated entity in the Group to which Basel II applies is Credit Suisse Group. For further information on regulation, refer to I – Information on the company – Regulation and supervision (pages 36 to 41) and to III – Treasury, Risk, Balance sheet and Off-balance sheet – Treasury management (pages 105 to 111) in the Credit Suisse Annual Report 2009.

Principles of consolidation

For financial reporting purposes, our consolidation principles comply with accounting principles generally accepted in the US (US GAAP). For capital adequacy reporting purposes, however, entities that are not active in banking and finance are not subject to consolidation (i.e. insurance, real estate and commercial companies). These investments, which are not material to the Group, are treated in accordance with the regulatory rules and are either subject to a risk-weighted capital requirement or a deduction from regulatory capital. FINMA has advised the Group that it may continue to include equity from special purpose entities that are deconsolidated under US GAAP as tier 1 capital. We have also received an exemption from FINMA not to consolidate private equity fund type vehicles.

For a list of significant subsidiaries and associated entities of Credit Suisse, refer to Note 37 – Significant subsidiaries and equity method investments in V – Consolidated financial statements – Credit Suisse Group (pages 311 to 313) in the Credit Suisse Annual Report 2009.

Restrictions on transfer of funds or regulatory capital

We do not believe that legal or regulatory restrictions constitute a material limitation on the ability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends or our ability to transfer funds or regulatory capital within the Group.

For information on our liquidity, funding and capital management and dividends and dividend policy, refer to III – Treasury, Risk, Balance sheet and Off-Balance sheet – Treasury management (pages 100 to 113) in the Credit Suisse Annual Report 2009.

Capital deficiencies

The Group's subsidiaries which are not included in the regulatory consolidation did not report any capital deficiencies in 2009.

2. Capital

For information on our capital structure, eligible capital and shareholders' equity and capital adequacy refer to III – Treasury, Risk, Balance sheet and Off-Balance sheet – Treasury management (pages 104 to 112) in the Credit Suisse Annual Report 2009.

Regulatory capital is calculated and managed according to Basel II and used to determine BIS ratios and, according to the Swiss Capital Adequacy Ordinance, the FINMA capital requirement covering ratio. The main differences between the BIS and FINMA calculations are the multipliers used for certain risk classes and additional FINMA requirements for market risk. The main impact of the multipliers is related to non-counterparty-related risks, for which FINMA uses a multiplier of 3.0 versus 1.0 for BIS. The additional FINMA requirements for market risk are for Value-at-Risk (VaR) backtesting exceptions, where FINMA imposes higher multipliers than BIS for more than ten exceptions, and stress-test-based risk-weighted assets for hedge funds.

BIS ratios compare eligible capital by tier 1 and total capital with BIS risk-weighted assets whereas the FINMA capital requirement covering ratio compares total capital with FINMA required capital.

During the transition period from Basel I to Basel II, the capital requirements include a floor adjustment that limits the benefit received from conversion. For Credit Suisse Group, the floor adjustment only had an impact on the FINMA capital requirements.

Description of regulatory approaches

Basel II provides a range of options for determining the capital requirements in order to allow banks and supervisors the ability to select approaches that are most appropriate. In general, Credit Suisse has adopted the most advanced approaches, which align with the way that risk is internally managed and provide the greatest risk sensitivity. Basel II focuses on credit risk, market risk, operational risk, securitization risk and equity and interest rate risk in the banking book. The regulatory approaches for each of these risk exposures and the related disclosures under Pillar 3 are set forth below.

Credit risk

Basel II permits banks a choice between two broad methodologies in calculating their capital requirements for credit risk, the internal ratings-based (IRB) approach or the standardized approach. Off-balance-sheet items are converted into credit exposure equivalents through the use of credit conversion factors (CCF).

The majority of our credit risk is with institutional counterparties (sovereigns, other institutions, banks and corporates) and arises from lending and trading activity in the Investment Banking and Private Banking divisions. The remaining credit risk is with retail counterparties and mostly arises in the Private Banking division from residential mortgage loans and other secured lending, including loans collateralized by securities.

Under the IRB approach, risk weights are determined by using internal risk parameters. We have received approval from FINMA to use, and have fully implemented, the advanced internal ratings-based (A-IRB) approach whereby we provide our own estimates for probability of default (PD), loss given default (LGD) and exposure at default (EAD). We use the A-IRB approach to determine our institutional credit risk and most of our retail credit risk.

PD parameters capture the risk of a counterparty defaulting over a one-year time horizon. PD estimates are based on time-weighted averages of historical default rates by rating grade, with low-default-portfolio estimation techniques applied for higher quality rating grades. Each PD reflects the internal rating for the relevant obligor.

LGD parameters consider seniority, collateral, counterparty industry and in certain cases fair value markdowns. LGD estimates are based on an empirical analysis of historical loss rates and are calibrated to reflect time and cost of recovery as well as economic downturn conditions. For much of the Private Banking loan portfolio, the LGD is primarily dependent upon the type and amount of collateral pledged. For other retail credit risk, predominantly loans secured by financial collateral, pool LGDs differentiate between standard and higher risks, as well as domestic and foreign transactions. The credit approval and collateral monitoring process are based on loan-to-value limits. For mortgages (residential or commercial), recovery rates are differentiated by type of property.

EAD is either derived from balance sheet values or by using models. EAD for a non-defaulted facility is an estimate of the gross exposure upon default of the obligor. Estimates are derived based on a CCF approach using default-weighted averages of historical realized conversion factors on defaulted loans by facility type. Estimates are calibrated to capture negative operating environment effects.

We have received approval from FINMA to use the internal model method for measuring counterparty risk for the majority of our derivative and secured financing exposures.

Risk weights are calculated using either the PD/LGD approach or the supervisory risk weights (SRW) approach for certain types of specialized lending.

Under the standardized approach, risk weights are determined either according to credit ratings provided by recognized external credit assessment institutions or, for unrated exposures, by using the applicable regulatory risk weights. Less than 10% of our credit risk is determined using this approach.

Market risk

For calculating the capital requirements for market risk, the internal models approach (IMA) or the standardized approach is used. We have received approval from FINMA, as well as from certain other regulators of our subsidiaries, to use our VaR model to calculate trading book market risk capital requirements under the IMA. We apply the IMA to the vast majority of the positions in our trading book. We continue to receive regulatory approval for ongoing enhancements to the VaR methodology, and the VaR model is subject to regular reviews by regulators and auditors.

We use the standardized approach to determine our market risk for a small number of positions, which represent an immaterial proportion of our overall market risk exposure.

Operational risk

We have received approval from FINMA to use the advanced measurement approach (AMA) for measuring operational risk. Under this approach we have identified key scenarios that describe major operational risks relevant to us. Groups of senior staff review each scenario and discuss the likelihood of occurrence and the potential severity of loss. Internal and external loss data, along with certain business environment and internal control factors, such as self-assessment results and key risk indicators, are considered as part of this process. Based on the output from these meetings, we enter the scenario probabilities and severities into an event model that generates a loss distribution. Insurance mitigation is included in the capital assessment where appropriate, by considering the level of insurance coverage for each scenario and incorporating haircuts as appropriate. Based on the loss distribution, the level of capital required to cover operational risk can then be calculated.

Securitization risk

For securitizations, the regulatory capital requirements are calculated using IRB approaches: the ratings-based approach (RBA) and the supervisory formula approach (SFA).

Other risks

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE GROUP AG - Form 6-K

For equity type securities in the banking book, risk weights are determined using the IRB Simple approach based on the equity sub-asset type (qualifying private equity, listed equity and all other equity positions).

Regulatory fixed risk weights are applied to settlement and non-counterparty-related exposures. Settlement exposures arise from unsettled or failed transactions where cash or securities are delivered without a corresponding receipt. Non-counterparty-related exposures arise from holdings of premises and equipment, real estate and investments in real estate entities.

For other items, we received approval from FINMA to apply a simplified Institute Specific Direct Risk Weight approach to immaterial portfolios.

Risk-weighted assets

end of	2009			2008		
	Ad- vanced	Stan- dardized	Total	Ad- vanced	Stan- dardized	Total
Risk-weighted assets (CHF million)						
Sovereigns	6,616	–	6,616	7,268	–	7,268
Other institutions	1,414	–	1,414	1,649	–	1,649
Banks	19,939	72	20,011	24,245	91	24,336
Corporates	91,585	–	91,585	92,914	–	92,914
Residential mortgage	11,112	–	11,112	11,214	–	11,214
Qualifying revolving retail	300	–	300	548	–	548
Other retail	7,100	531	7,631	6,287	896	7,183
Other exposures	–	5,171	5,171	–	9,521	9,521
Credit risk ¹	138,066	5,774	143,840	144,125	10,508	154,633
Market risk	16,728	730	17,458	38,146	1,765	39,911
Operational risk	32,013	–	32,013	30,137	–	30,137
Equity type securities in the banking book	14,264	–	14,264 ₂	16,823	–	16,823 ₂
Securitization risk	3,810	–	3,810	6,409	–	6,409
Settlement risk	–	1,565	1,565	–	488	488
Non-counterparty-related risk	–	7,141	7,141	–	6,994	6,994
Other items	–	1,518	1,518	–	2,072	2,072
Total BIS risk-weighted assets	204,881	16,728	221,609	235,640	21,827	257,467
Additional market risk backtesting multiplier for more than ten exceptions	–	–	–	18,044	–	18,044
Other multipliers	1,086	15,106	16,192	–	15,464	15,464
VaR hedge fund add-on ³	3,716	–	3,716	9,774	–	9,774

Total FINMA risk-weighted assets⁴

	209,683	31,834	241,517	263,458	37,291	300,749
--	----------------	---------------	----------------	----------------	---------------	----------------

1 For a description of the asset classes refer to section 4 - Credit risk. 2 Primarily privately held. 3 The VaR hedge fund capital add-on is stress-test-based and was introduced by the FINMA in 2008 for hedge fund exposures in the trading book. This capital add-on is required for the FINMA calculation in addition to the VaR-based market risk capital charge already included in BIS capital. For further information, refer to section 6 – Market risk. 4 Excluding FINMA floor adjustment of CHF 7,956 million and CHF 48,876 million in 2009 and 2008, respectively, declining primarily due to the Basel I floor percentage movement from 90% to 80%.

BIS and FINMA statistics

	Group		Bank	
end of	2009	2008	2009	2008
BIS statistics				
Tier 1 capital (CHF million)	36,207	34,208	34,695	34,192
Total eligible capital (CHF million)	45,728	46,090	46,320	47,839
Tier 1 ratio (%)	16.3	13.3	16.5	13.9
Total capital ratio (%)	20.6	17.9	22.0	19.5
FINMA statistics				
FINMA required capital (CHF million) ¹	19,321	24,060	18,316	22,948
Capital requirement covering ratio (%) ²	236.7	191.6	252.9	208.5

1 Calculated as 8% of total FINMA risk-weighted assets. 2 Including the FINMA floor adjustment, the capital requirement coverage ratio for the Group and the Bank would be 229.1% and 242.1% in 2009 and 164.8% and 177.5% in 2008, respectively.

3. Risk exposure and assessment

For information on risk governance, risk organization, risk types and risk limits, refer to III – Treasury, Risk, Balance sheet and Off-balance sheet – Risk management (pages 117 to 136) in the Credit Suisse Annual Report 2009.

4. Credit risk

General

For information on our credit risk management approach, ratings and risk mitigation and impaired exposures and allowances, refer to III – Treasury, Risk, Balance sheet and Off-balance sheet – Risk management (pages 126 to 135) in the Credit Suisse Annual Report 2009.

For regulatory purposes, we categorize our exposures into broad classes of assets with different underlying risk characteristics including type of counterparty, size of exposure and type of collateral. The asset class categorization is driven by Basel II regulatory rules. The credit asset classes under Basel II are set forth below and are grouped as either institutional or retail.

Institutional credit risk

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE GROUP AG - Form 6-K

- Sovereigns: exposures to central governments, central banks, BIS, the International Monetary Fund, the European Central Bank and eligible Multilateral Development Banks (MDB).
- Other institutions: exposures to public bodies with the right to raise taxes or whose liabilities are guaranteed by a public sector entity.
- Banks: exposures to banks, securities firms, stock exchanges and those MDB that do not qualify for sovereign treatment.
- Corporates: exposures to corporations (except small businesses) and public sector entities with no right to raise taxes and whose liabilities are not guaranteed by a public entity. The Corporate asset class also includes specialized lending, in which the lender looks primarily to a single source of revenues to cover the repayment obligations and where only the financed asset serves as security for the exposure (e.g., income producing real estate or commodities finance).

Retail credit risk

- Residential mortgages: includes exposures secured by residential real estate collateral occupied or let by the borrower.
- Qualifying revolving retail: includes credit card receivables and overdrafts.
- Other retail: includes loans collateralized by securities and small business exposures.

Other credit risk

- Other exposures: includes exposures with insufficient information to treat under the A-IRB approach or to allocate under the Standardized approach into any other asset class.

Gross credit exposures by regulatory approach and risk-weighted assets

end of 2009 (CHF million)	PD/LGD		A-IRB SRW	Stan- dardized	Total	Risk- weighted assets
	Pre- substitution ¹	Post- substitution				
	Sovereigns	64,295	63,517	–	–	63,517
Other institutions	5,503	5,411	–	–	5,411	1,414
Banks	71,578	77,327	31	362	77,720	20,011
Corporates	195,294	190,415	3,411	–	193,826	91,585
Total institutional credit exposures	336,670	336,670	3,442	362	340,474	119,626
Residential mortgage	90,150	90,150	–	–	90,150	11,112
Qualifying revolving retail	181	181	–	–	181	300
Other retail	48,457	48,457	–	916	49,373	7,631
Total retail credit exposures	138,788	138,788	–	916	139,704	19,043
Other exposures	–	–	–	7,901	7,901	5,171

Edgar Filing: CREDIT SUISSE GROUP AG - Form 6-K

Total gross credit exposures	475,458	475,458	3,442	9,179	488,079	143,840
2008 (CHF million)						
Sovereigns	101,441	100,858	–	–	100,858	7,268
Other institutions	5,321	5,860	–	–	5,860	1,649
Banks	93,038	96,651	1	380		