

Securities Services Conference 2025

Opening Speech

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Good morning, everyone,

It is a pleasure to join you today for this new edition of the Securities Services Conference. I would like to thank Cecabank and Expansión for inviting me to open this event.

The conference is entitled 'Driving change in the sector'. In this regard, allow me to begin with a relevant example of change driven by the CNMV and Iberclear.

I will then broaden the perspective to reflect on the direction in which we would like to see these changes evolve.

Starting with a concrete example, on 10 March, we successfully completed one of the most significant projects in our sector in recent years. I am referring to the decommissioning of Iberclear's Post-Trading Interface, commonly known as PTI. This reform marks a turning point in the Spanish settlement and registration system.

Why is this decommissioning so important?

Because it represents much more than a technological or procedural change. The decommissioning of PTI entails:

- A reduction in operational risk, which in turn lowers the risk of settlement failures
- Alignment of our system with the standards of other European markets, facilitating harmonisation
- The removal of barriers to entry, paving the way for new participants
- And, most notably, a simplification that reduces administrative costs—a measure we hope will also translate into lower costs to end investors.

This process began five years ago, in 2020, and has allowed us to get ahead of the regulatory simplification programme launched by the European Commission, as well as the broader initiatives aimed at further integrating financial markets within the framework of the Savings and Investments Union.

The demise of the PTI was not an end in itself, but a necessary step toward addressing another major challenge we are now fully engaged in: the transition to a T+1 settlement cycle (a topic that will also be discussed during today's session).

Without this prior reform, the transition from T+2 to T+1 would not be feasible. This is a major change that will impact not only our post-trading infrastructures and their participants, but also the securities trading industry as a whole.

The target date has been set: 11 October 2027. We know that successful implementation will be key to enhancing the efficiency and competitiveness of European markets, reducing collateral requirements, and aligning with international standards.

We are not starting from scratch. The US and Canadian markets have already been operating under this model for over a year, with positive results. Both the United Kingdom and Switzerland have also announced plans to follow suit.

In this context, it is worth remembering that excellent preparation is the basis for successful execution.

Recent experience with the PTI has proven this: two years of rigorous work by Iberclear and the participating entities made migration day—I dare say—"easy".

At the European level, the Project is progressing steadily. The roadmap published by ESMA last November is guiding this collective effort. Despite the diversity of jurisdictions and infrastructures, no insurmountable obstacles have been identified in shortening the settlement cycle. There are indeed technical aspects that require further analysis, but none that call the project's progress into question.

We are also at a key juncture: on 30 June, the industry Committee's High-Level Roadmap to T+1 recommendations were approved and published. Then, on 3 July, following the launch event, a consultation process was opened, which will run through July and August. The Implementation Playbook is expected to be published in September, marking the start of the implementation phase in 2026.

At the national level, I would like to highlight the efforts of the dedicated working group set up to closely monitor and support this process.

This is a group that includes all relevant sectors of the Spanish industry. Its objective is to ensure proper preparation, identify national specificities and, where appropriate, convey them to the relevant European governance forums.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank BME (Iberclear) for its coordination efforts, CECA Bank and INVERCO for their strong commitment and of course, all participating entities for their dedication and engagement.

At the CNMV, we will closely monitor the progress of this work. In particular, we will follow the progress made by management companies and brokers in automating their

processes, with the aim of ensuring that all entities confirm transaction data by the end of the trading session, as required under the new standard.

The decommission of the PTI or the transition to T+1 are part of a broader project aimed at making securities markets safer and more competitive.

And in this same spirit—as I mentioned at the beginning—I would like to reflect briefly on the direction we would like future developments to take, in particular regarding the simplification and integration of securities markets across the EU.

At the CNMV, we are actively contributing to this integration and simplification process, both at the European and national level.

At the European level, the integration of financial markets has become an urgent priority, with multiple initiatives already underway

Significant progress has been made in the post-trading environment: for example, more than 260 links have been established between Central Securities Depositories in Europe and around the world (including those of Iberclear), and there are efficient common platforms such as T2S for securities settlement.

As for simplification, the CNMV advocates reducing administrative burdens and collaborating with international bodies and supervisory authorities.

An example of this simplification is the effort to facilitate cross-border securities registration services by allowing issuers in the CSD of the designated Member State (without needing prior authorisation from the host authority).

The Spanish CSD has held a passport to operate in five new jurisdictions for several months now.

In the area of clearing, the revision of EMIR (EMIR 3.0) is also aligned with this objective. Accelerated procedures have been introduced for authorising the launch of new clearing services by CCPs.

BME Clearing's initiative to expand interest rate swap clearing services to multiple currencies beyond the EUR, starting in early 2025, was the first to receive authorisation under the accelerated procedure and it has marked a milestone for the CNMV in the way it manages this type of process.

At the national level, the CNMV has also launched its own internal simplification plan.

In the context of the changes already mentioned, it is essential that we review and update our supervisory and authorisation procedures (a review that is currently underway) in order to promote simplification and reduction of burdens for stakeholders.

Our objective is to eliminate any procedures that we deem unnecessary, as was the case with the PTI, as previously noted.

An additional matter regarding the DLT infrastructure pilot regime. Although no Spanish-based infrastructure has yet been admitted to the Pilot, the CNMV has been in discussions with operators since the regime was launched. Several of their projects are now in the final stages, and we expect to approve some of these infrastructures in the future.

I will close with a message that also relates to driving change.

Both entities and their supervisor must be able to adapt effectively to constantly evolving markets. That adaptation (that drive for change) will be essential to ensuring competitive markets that serve companies, institutions and, ultimately, investors.

It is also my intention to adapt the CNMV to these new dynamics of the financial system and to the ongoing economic and social transformations. And to achieve this, I count on your support.

Thank you very much.