

Banco de la República, the Central Bank of Colombia, wishes to nominate for the Excellence in Currency Awards, its new 1000 pesos coin for the Best New Circulating Coin.

**The 1000 pesos coin is the icon of the new family of coins and represents the outstanding Colombian biodiversity and the commitment of the Bank towards the environment and sustainability (please watch this video <http://www.banrep.gov.co/en/node/32381> )**

## **Introduction**

As a consequence of the level of counterfeiting reached by the former 1000 pesos coin some years ago, people started losing confidence in the coin to the point that the demand for this coin denomination dropped dramatically. Since that time the institution developed a research and testing project to reintroduce a new coin of this denomination to the cash flow.

A technical team studied the methods and techniques used by counterfeiters, as well as major developments in the industry of coins manufacturing in terms of alloys, quality and safety, and proposed the basis for a design that would meet the highest security and technical standards.

Based on these technical definitions and the leitmotif of biodiversity, with emphasis on water, renowned Colombian artists were invited to propose a design for this new coin. Among the proposals selected, there were those that would ensure the most likelihood of security features and best represented the suggested subject. After interesting discussions between artists and technicians and successive tests, the conclusion was to a coin for circulation which in the opinion of the Bank's Board of Directors met theme, design, and security requirements, with the following specifications:

## **NOMINATION FOR THE BEST NEW CIRCULATING COIN**

We are proud of nominating our new circulating 1000 pesos coin issued on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012, as mentioned earlier:

### **I. - Environmental awareness**

The engraving of this new coin highlights the importance of environmental resources, especially water. That valuable resource is represented explicit or implicitly in the new piece, not only to facilitate coin recognition within the public but also to reinforce the educational intention on environmental awareness. In this way, it contributes to awake to the interest in the conservation of the environment.

In addition, this initiative highlights a representative species of the rich Colombian biodiversity. It aims to also contribute to the education and public awareness about the need to take care of the country's typical flora and fauna.

## II. - Theme of the New Circulating Coin

As mentioned before, there is a consistent design theme around the native Colombian fauna which is intended to reflect the country's biodiversity. The coin also features images of water, which is seen as essential to the country's ecological heritage. This particular design has confirmed the interest of the Bank in promoting and preserving the country's natural resources for a sustainable future.

The specific features of the new 1000 coin (at <http://www.banrep.gov.co/es/node/30499> it is possible to watch a video with the specifications of the coin; the script in English is attached)

## III. - Design and security features

It is a **bimetallic coin** with a silver colored centre and gold outer



It features an image of a “loggerhead turtle” entering the water<sup>1</sup>. The following are the most important security features of the coin obverse:

**Multilevel Image:** Turtle named “CAGUAMA” located on the left side of the coin and partially covers the center field. The turtle is created by multilevel to generate volume and three-dimensionality. The turtle has fine details in its design, making it a complex image with different reliefs and high definition.

**Field:** located in the center and the ring of the coin. It is flat and brilliant.

**External and internal beading:** made up of a dots string in high relief and high definition

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<sup>1</sup> The *Loggerhead turtle* is a highly migratory marine species for nesting; one of the sites of choice for this process and the foraging are the Colombian beaches of the Caribbean and the Pacific. Its population has been significantly affected due to hunting for its shell, the collection of their eggs, the invasion of spawning beaches and the incidental catch by trawlers in the shrimp industry

**Circumscribed text:** the word “agua” (water) in high relief, repeated seven times in consecutive and inverted form each one with respect to the previous one.

**External waves:** lines in different reliefs which displacement covers the ring and the center. They are interrupted by the text with the name of the turtle

On the reverse of the coin it is possible to observe:



**Latent image** that allows displaying two images: at an angle BRC letters (initials of Banco de la República de Colombia) and in other angle the word MIL (thousand), in both views the appearance of waves giving continuity to the design.

**Circumscribed micro text:** the words “CUIDAR EL AGUA” (take care of water) in high relief, repeated four times in consecutive and inverted form each one with respect to the previous one.

**Rim:** circular, followed by a stepwise nonagon (nine sides) rim.

**Edge:** with a groove

**Wavelike** lines at 90 degrees with very fine parallel lines

The specifications of the coin are as follows:

ALLOYS	THICKNESS mm	WEIGHT g	DIAMETER mm	RIM HEIGHT mm
Center - White CuNiZn	2,20 ± 0,10	9,95 ± 3 %	17,50 ± 0,10	2,70 ± 0,10
Outer - Yellow CuNiZn			26,70 ± 0,10	

Complete information of the coin specifications is available at the website of the Central Bank of Colombia:

[http://www.banrep.gov.co/sites/default/files/billetes\\_monedas/multimedia\\_monedas/base.html](http://www.banrep.gov.co/sites/default/files/billetes_monedas/multimedia_monedas/base.html)