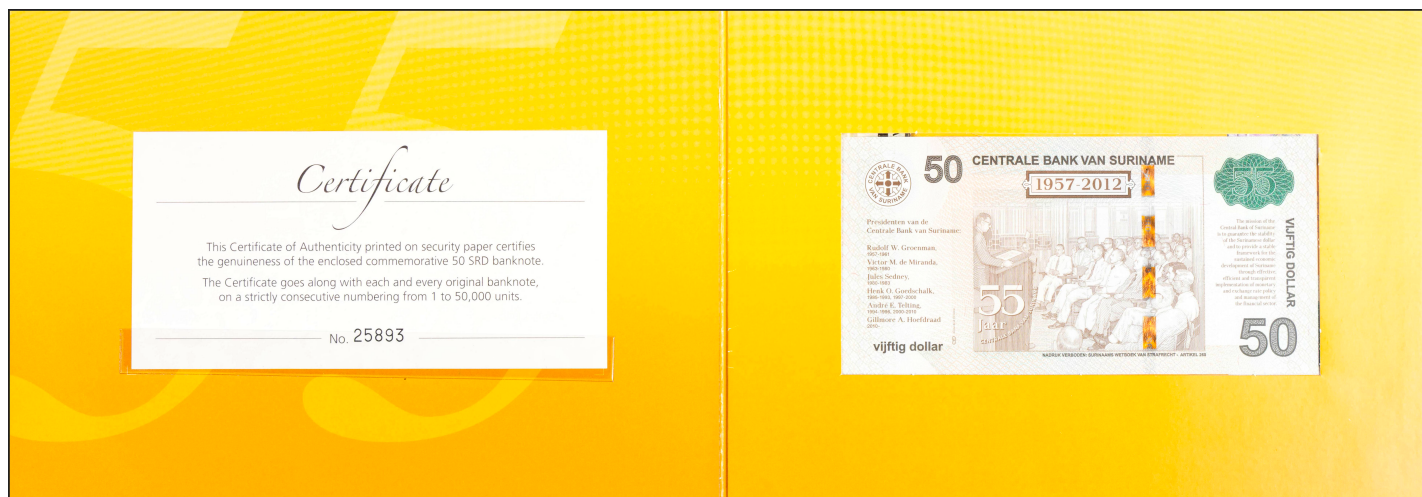
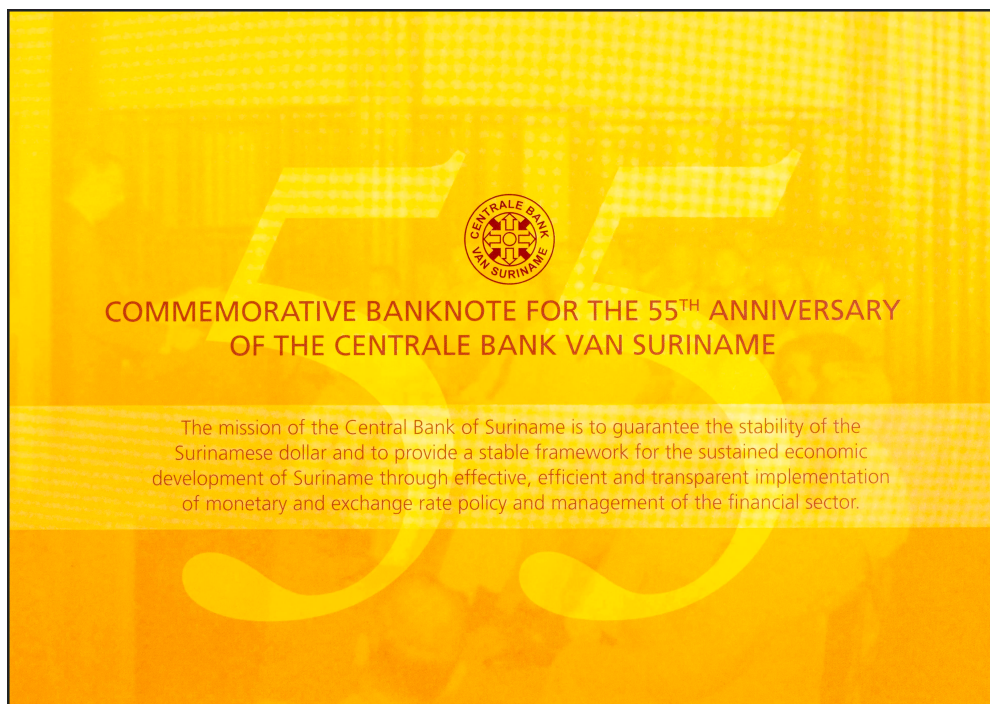


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Subasta Colección Asturica Worldwide #136

SURINAME. 50 Gulden. 1 April 2012. In official folder. Centrale Bank Van Suriname. (Pick: 167).
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Central Bank of Suriname commemorates its 55th anniversary on April 1, 2012

The Republic of Suriname is situated on the northern Coast of South America. It borders French Guiana to the east, Guyana to the west, Brazil to the south, and north to the Atlantic Ocean. Suriname gained independence from the Netherlands on November 25, 1975.

The population of Suriname accounts for approx. 500,000 and consists of a mix of ethnic groups who are living peacefully together. Among these are Creoles, Hindustani, Javanese, Maroons, Amerindians, Chinese, Lebanese, and different mixes of all these groups. Since it was a colony of the Netherlands until 1975, the official language of Suriname is Dutch. Surinamese, a native language spoken by all members of the society and often referred to as Creole, is considered the second language in Suriname while other languages include Sarnami Hindustani, Javanese, Chinese, several Amerindian languages and Maroon languages. Remarkably, English is widely spoken.

Two-thirds of the total population is concentrated in the Capital, Paramaribo. Since 2002, the historic centre of Paramaribo is on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Suriname is known for its vast amounts of natural resources. From these natural resources, the bauxite, petroleum and gold industries are important drivers of the economy. Gold production is estimated at approx. 37,000 kilos a year, while nowadays petroleum reaches a production capacity of 17,000 barrels of oil a day.

The brilliant heart of Suriname is formed by the tropical rainforest, which covers 80% of the total land area and makes this country part of the largest rainforest on earth, the Amazon region. This country is spared from natural disasters, such as earthquakes, volcanoes and tropical storms, due to its geographic position.

Suriname is well-known for its eco-friendly environment. The country has thirteen nature reserves and one natural park in which the flora and fauna are protected. With an area of 1,600,000 ha, the Central Suriname Nature Reserve is the largest protected section of tropical rainforest in the world.

Thanks to the climate, a wide variety of plants and flowers can be found; more than 5,000 species. Suriname also has a great wealth of fauna; nature conservation is one of the best in South America. Approximately 750 bird species, 185 different species of mammals and 250 amphibians and reptiles are confirmed to live in Suriname.

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