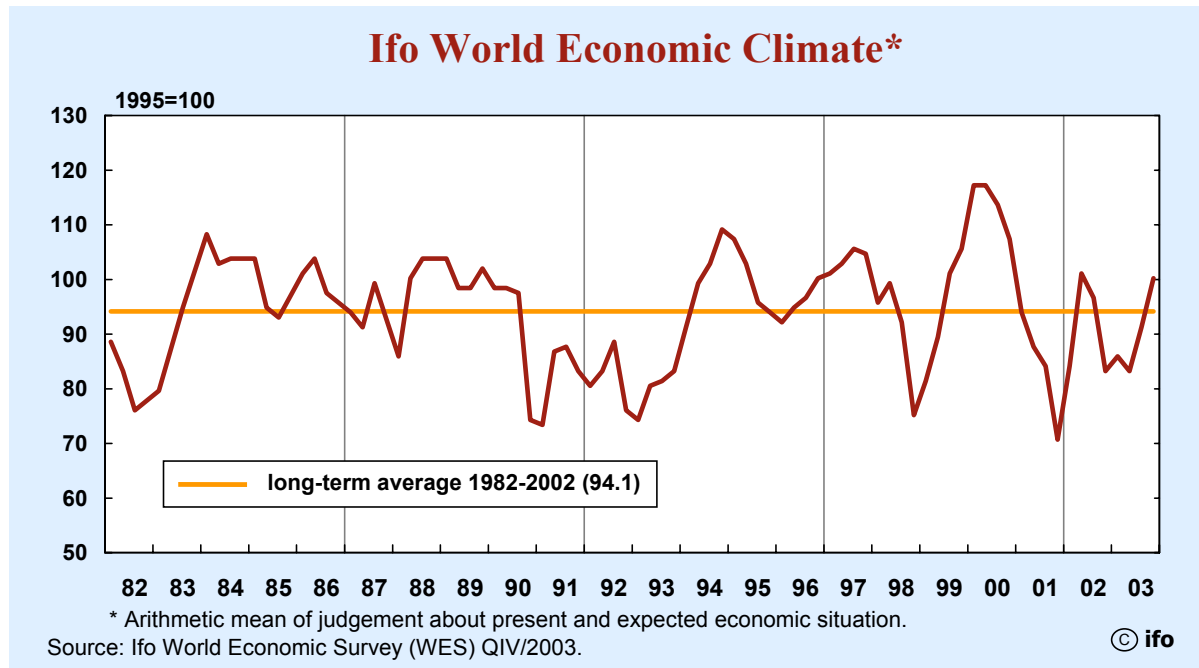


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Fig. 1



World Economy (Index, 1995 = 100)

Quarter/year	IV/01	I/02	II/02	III/02	IV/02	I/03	II/03	III/03	IV/03
Climate	70.7	84.1	101.1	96.6	83.2	85.9	83.2	91.3	100.2
Situation	63.9	63.9	78.5	78.5	69.4	69.4	67.6	67.6	76.7
Expectations	77.2	103.5	122.8	114.0	96.5	101.8	98.2	114.0	122.8

The Ifo World Economic Survey (WES) investigates world-wide economic trends by polling economic experts from multinational corporations and international organisations. The October 2003 survey received responses from 1,078 experts in 91 countries.

WES is a quarterly survey conducted in co-operation with the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris (ICC) and receives financial support from the European Commission.

A detailed regional analysis appears in the quarterly journal, *CESifo World Economic Survey*.

Improvement in the World Economic Climate in October

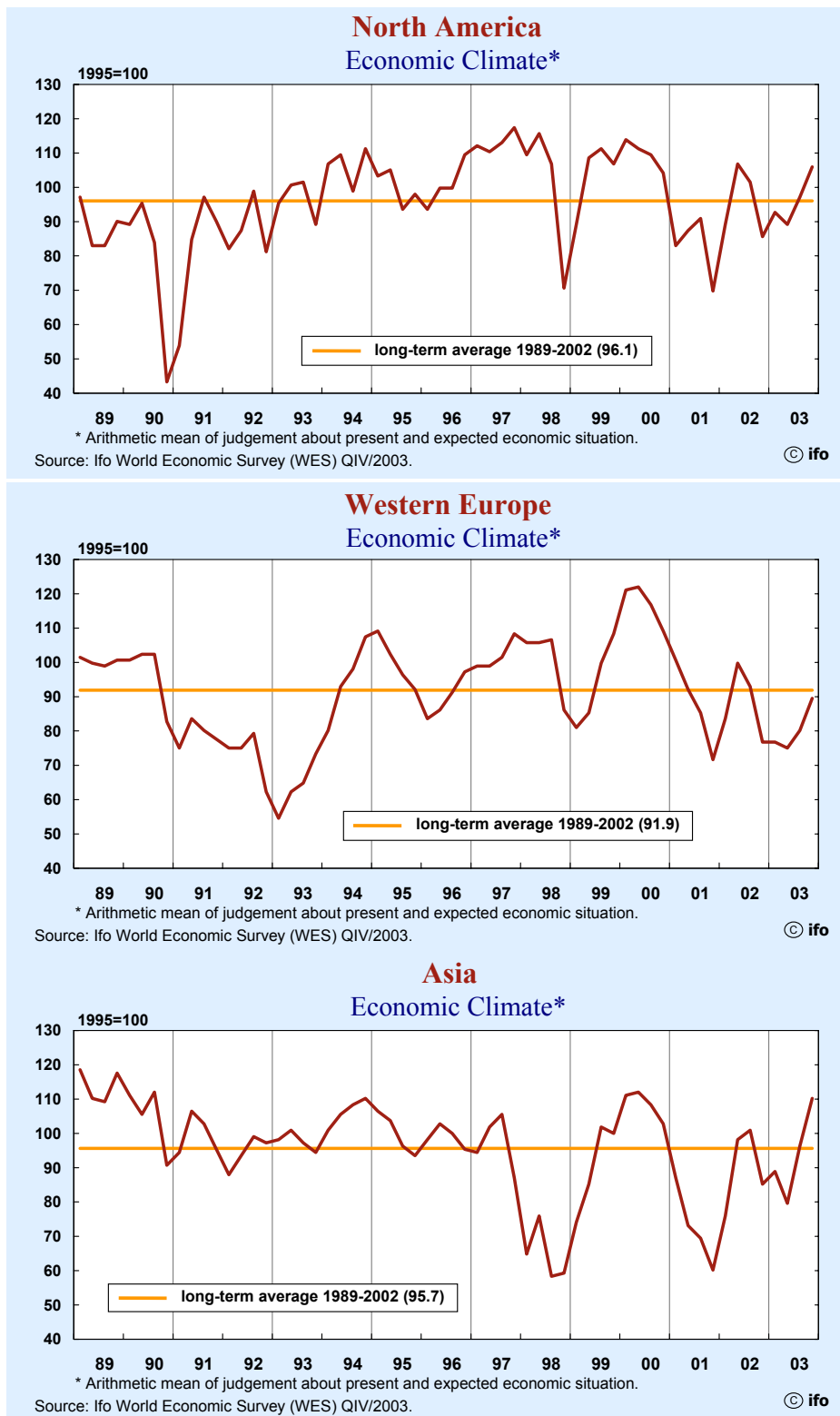
Latest Results of the Ifo World Economic Survey (WES) of 4th quarter 2003

The WES World Economic Climate indicator clearly improved again (see Fig. 1). Unlike the previous survey, the strengthening of the indicator was due both to more favourable expectations for the next six months as well as to assessments of the current economic situation. This lends weight to expectations that the economic upturn of the world economy will gain momentum.

The economic climate improved significantly in Asia and North America (see Figure 2); the climate index in these areas is now above its long-term average. In North America this is entirely due to better assessments of the current situation while in Asia, particularly in Japan, India and South Korea, both components of the climate index are pointed upwards. Also in Western Europe the economic climate brightened noticeably, boosted by more favourable expectations, but the long-term average has not yet been reached.

Hans-Werner Sinn, President of the Ifo Institute for Economic Research

Fig. 2



Climate (1995=100)	IV/01	I/02	II/02	III/02	IV/02	I/03	II/03	III/03	IV/03
North America	69.8	89.2	106.8	101.5	85.7	92.7	89.2	97.1	106.0
Western Europe	71.6	83.6	99.8	93.0	76.8	76.8	75.1	80.2	89.6
Asia	60.2	75.9	98.1	100.9	85.2	88.9	79.6	96.3	110.2