



## **Monthly Economic and Financial Developments January 2013**

In an effort to provide the public with more frequent information on its economic surveillance activities, the Central Bank has decided to release monthly reports on economic and financial sector developments in The Bahamas. The Bank monitors these conditions as part of its monetary policy mandate, to assess whether money and credit trends are sustainable relative to levels of external reserves required to protect the value of the Bahamian dollar and, if not, the degree to which credit policies ought to be adjusted. The main data source for this surveillance is financial institutions' daily reports on foreign exchange transactions and weekly balance sheet statements. Therefore, monthly approximations may not coincide with calendar estimates reported in the Central Bank's quarterly reports. The Central Bank will release its "Monthly Economic and Financial Developments" report on the Monday following its monthly Monetary Policy Committee Meeting.

### **Future Release Dates:**

**2013:** April 8, April 29, June 3, July 1, July 29, September 2, September 30, November 4, December 2, December 23.

# Monthly Economic and Financial Developments

## January 2013

### 1. Domestic Economic Developments

Indications are that the domestic economy continued its mild pace of growth during January, as foreign investment and, to a lesser extent public sector projects, supported construction activity, while tourism output appeared to soften, amid a decline in occupancy levels. In the absence of a broad-based recovery, unemployment levels remained elevated, and inflation was relatively benign. The fiscal performance deteriorated for the first half of FY2012/13, as revenues normalized following the year-earlier extraordinary flows, and salary related payments, alongside infrastructure project commitments, boosted spending levels. Monetary developments featured a contraction in both liquidity and external reserves, associated with normal demand for imports.

Preliminary hotel performance indicators for January, based on a sample of major hotels in New Providence and Paradise Island, reported a 1.6% year-on-year decline in total room revenues, which remained some 21.0% below 2008 levels. Although the average daily rate improved by 3.5% to \$240.57, the average occupancy rate fell by 1.5 percentage points to 57.9%. In addition, approximately six (6) of the nine (9) properties surveyed experienced a fall-off in revenue, while the partial closing of a major property contributed to a 2.4% contraction in available room stock.

Based on the latest available data, the rate of increase in consumer price inflation for the twelve-months to October 2012 softened by 0.6 of a percentage point to 2.35%. The outturn included a deceleration in average price gains for transportation, to 2.64% from 8.70% in the comparative 2011 period, alongside notable declines in inflation rates for restaurant & hotels (by 1.0 percentage point to 1.81%), furnishing, household equipment & maintenance (by 0.9 of a percentage point to 2.8%) and education (by 0.9 of a percentage point to 2.36%).

Preliminary data on the Government's operations for the first half of FY2012/13 showed a widening in the overall deficit, by \$102.7 million (62.9%) to \$266.0 million. Total revenue contracted by \$51.9 million (7.2%) to \$664.8 million, while aggregate expenditure was higher by \$50.8 million (5.8%) at \$930.8 million. In terms of receipts, tax collections weakened by \$37.1 million (6.0%) to \$583.1 million, reflecting mainly an \$86.3 million (41.6%) contraction in excise tax receipts back to trend levels, following the significant one-time inflow in the prior period. In contrast, gains were recorded for departure taxes (\$34.4 million), property taxes (\$11.2 million), business & professional fees (\$3.9 million) and other "miscellaneous" taxes (\$3.3 million). Further, non-tax collections rose marginally by \$3.0 million (3.8%) to \$81.7 million, owing mainly to a timing-related advance in income from public enterprises and growth in fines, forfeits & administrative fees. The expansion in expenditure was led by a \$33.8 million (4.8%) rise in current outlays to \$745.7 million, reflecting a \$15.8 million gain in consumption spending, related mainly to increased salary payments, while higher subsidies to a public entity boosted transfers by \$17.9 million. Capital outlays also grew, by \$15.3 million to \$115.1 million, with a dominant \$18.2 million (23.6%) absorbed by infrastructure works.

The deficit for the six-month period was financed mainly from domestic sources, and comprised the issuance of \$325.0 million in Registered Stock, \$55.0 million in Treasury bills and \$53.0 million in

short-term advances. On the external side, \$180 million was obtained by way of an international bond in December, with a further \$34.7 million derived from project-based loan financing.

## **2. International Developments**

Global economic conditions remained challenging during January, as the euro area debt crisis persisted and concerns over the potential effects on the United States economy of a series of spending cuts, set to be implemented in March—termed “sequestration,”—started to impact business sentiment. Asian economies achieved healthy rates of real growth, slowing only modestly from levels attained in recent years. Given ongoing concerns about the durability of the recovery, the major central banks maintained their accommodative monetary stance, in a bid to stimulate growth.

Economic activity in the United States remained sluggish, following a marked slowdown in real GDP growth to a mere 0.1% in the fourth quarter of 2012, based on declines in private inventory investment, Government spending and exports. This was confirmed in more recent statistics which showed industrial production contracting by 0.1% in January vis-à-vis a 0.4% increase a month earlier, and increases in fuel costs and higher taxes causing a slowing in retail sales gains to 0.1% from December’s 0.5%. In contrast, the housing sector showed signs of further recovery, as building permits issued and housing completions firmed by 1.8% and 6.0%, respectively, month-on-month; however, adverse winter conditions contributed to an 8.5% decrease in housing starts. With relatively low inflation of 1.6% in January, and unemployment steady at an elevated 7.9%, the Federal Reserve (FED) maintained its highly accommodative monetary policy stance.

In Europe, economic conditions in the United Kingdom remained challenging, as retail sales fell by 0.6% in January, extending December’s 0.3% contraction, while consumer price inflation stabilized at 2.7% for the fourth consecutive month, owing to decreases in clothing and miscellaneous costs. The euro zone economy recorded its third consecutive quarter of decline, as output fell by 0.6% in the final quarter of 2012. Reflecting weakness in consumer spending, retail trade decreased by 0.8% in December, outpacing the 0.1% falloff a month earlier, while the external trade surplus narrowed, on a monthly basis, by €1.3 billion to €11.7 billion, as a 3.0% gain in imports outweighed a 1.8% reduction in exports. Consumer price inflation softened by 0.2 of a percentage point to 2.0% in January, as average price gains slowed for energy, services and non-energy related industrial goods, while the unemployment rate stabilized at 11.7% in December. Given the weakness in their respective economies, both the Bank of England and the European Central Bank maintained their key policy rates at historic lows.

The performance of the Asian economies was comparatively stronger during the review period, following on China’s strengthened real GDP boost of 7.9% in the fourth quarter. Because of growing net imports, the trade surplus narrowed by US\$2.4 billion in January to US\$29.2 billion, and annual inflation firmed to 1.5%, up from December’s 0.3% rise, due to higher food prices. In this environment, the People’s Bank of China left its key bank rates unchanged. Similarly, Japan’s economy showed modest signs of recovery, with real GDP increasing by a marginal 0.2% in the fourth quarter of 2012, after contracting in the previous two periods, led by an expansion in corporate spending and household consumption. Industrial production grew by 2.4% in December, in contrast to the prior month’s 1.4% contraction. However, deflationary pressures persisted over the review period, with average consumer prices decreasing by 0.1% year-on-year in December,

and the unemployment rate rose by 0.1 of a percentage point in January to 4.2%. Given the weak economic environment, the Japanese Government approved a US\$116.0 billion infrastructure related stimulus package, and the Bank of Japan announced a series of measures aimed at improving the competitiveness of the economy.

Despite concerns over the long-term prospects for the global economy, an improved outlook for the United States economy, along with OPEC's marginal reduction in crude oil production, supported an increase in crude oil prices, by 3.9% to \$114.93 per barrel, in January. In terms of precious metals, the price of gold declined marginally, by 0.7% to \$1,663.65 per troy ounce, while the cost of silver moved higher by 3.7% to \$31.45 per troy ounce.

All of the major equity markets registered broad-based gains in January, with the United States' Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) and S&P 500 advancing by 5.7% and 5.0%, respectively. Similar improvements were registered for European bourses; the United Kingdom's FTSE 100 expanded by 6.4%, France's CAC 40 by 2.5% and Germany's DAX by 2.2%. In Asia, both Japan's Nikkei 225 and China's SE composite index rose by 7.2% and 5.1%, respectively.

The United States dollar was mixed relative to other major currencies in January, as it appreciated against the British Pound, by 2.5% to £0.6306 and relative to the Canadian dollar, by 0.5% to C\$0.9972. In contrast, the dollar weakened vis-à-vis the euro and the Swiss Franc, by 2.8% and 0.6%, to €0.7365 and CHF0.9101, respectively. Compared to the Asian currencies, the dollar advanced against the Japanese Yen, by 5.7% to ¥91.72, but declined versus the Chinese Yuan, by 0.2% to CNY6.2188.

### **3. Domestic Monetary Trends**

#### **January 2013 vs. 2012**

Monetary developments for January featured contractions in both bank liquidity and external reserves, amid net foreign currency outflows to meet demand for external payments. Excess reserves declined by \$37.5 million to \$412.5 million, a turnaround from the prior year's \$10.9 million expansion, and the surplus on the broader liquid assets fell by \$16.2 million to \$955.3 million, vis-à-vis a \$3.0 million gain in 2012.

External reserves decreased by \$22.1 million to \$790.0 million, which mirrored the reduction in the comparative 2012 period. The Central Bank's net foreign currency sale of \$23.4 million included a net outflow of \$7.3 million to commercial banks, a turnaround from the year-earlier net purchase of \$11.0 million, with banks also registering a net sale of \$11.1 million to their clients vis-à-vis a net intake of \$23.1 million in the prior year. Further, the Bank's net sale to the public sector was halved to \$16.1 million—the bulk of which was for fuel imports.

During January, growth in Bahamian dollar credit accelerated by \$20.2 million to \$36.1 million. Increased short-term borrowing elevated the system's net claim on the Government, by \$64.4 million, a reversal from a \$6.4 million decrease in the corresponding period last year. Reflecting the pervasive weakness in private demand, credit to this sector contracted by \$23.4 million vis-à-vis an \$11.2 million rise in 2011. This outcome reflected broad-based declines in consumer credit, commercial & other loans and mortgages, of \$10.8 million, \$8.3 million and \$4.4 million,

respectively. In addition, banks' claims on the public corporations fell by \$4.3 million, following last years' \$11.0 million advance.

Banks' credit quality indicators improved modestly in January, although the decline in arrears was not broad-based across institutions. Total private sector loan arrears contracted by \$25.3 million (2.0%) to \$1,225.3 million, with the ratio of arrears to total loans softening by 31 basis points to 19.72%. This outcome was due solely to a narrowing in short-term delinquencies (31 to 90 days), by \$37.4 million (9.8%) to \$345.6 million, which represent 5.56% of total loans—a drop of 57 basis points. In contrast, non-performing loans—arrears in excess of 90 days and on which banks have stopped accruing interest—grew by \$12.1 million (1.4%) to \$879.7 million, for a 26 basis point increase in the corresponding loan arrears ratio to 14.16%.

The most significant contraction in arrears was recorded for the consumer loan component, which decreased by \$13.7 million (4.9%) to \$266.5 million. The short-term category improved by \$11.3 million (11.1%), with a marginal \$2.5 million (1.4%) fall-off for the non-performing component. Similarly, mortgage arrears contracted by \$10.5 million (1.5%) to \$689.0 million, as a \$15.6 million reduction in short-term delinquencies outweighed the \$5.2 million (1.0%) rise in the non-accrual segment. Commercial loan arrears were slightly lower, by \$1.1 million (0.4%) to \$269.8 million, attributed to a \$10.5 million (13.2%) retrenchment in 31-90 day delinquencies, which negated the \$9.5 million (4.9%) gain in non-performing loans.

During January, banks increased loan loss provisions by \$17.2 million (5.1%) to \$356.5 million. As a consequence, the ratio of provisions to arrears and non-performing loans firmed, by 2.0 and 1.4 percentage points, to 29.1% and 40.5%, respectively.

Domestic foreign currency credit for January was reduced by \$5.4 million, extending the year-earlier \$3.8 million falloff. The contraction in claims on public corporations steadied at \$3.0 million, while the fall-off in credit to the private sector was higher at \$2.8 million, from last year's \$0.2 million. In contrast, net claims on the Government grew by \$0.4 million vis-à-vis a year-earlier \$0.8 million reduction.

Growth in total Bahamian dollar deposits was higher at \$21.8 million from \$16.3 million last year, and was broadly-based. Fixed balances expanded by \$14.8 million, a turnaround from a \$9.1 million contraction a year ago, and savings deposits posted a \$4.5 million gain, to reverse the year-earlier \$9.1 million reduction. Demand balances were up by a moderate \$2.6 million, albeit a significant slowdown from last year's \$34.5 million gain.

In interest rate developments, the weighted average deposit rate increased slightly to 1.88%, with the highest rate of 5.00% offered on fixed placements over 12 months. Conversely, the weighted average loan rate fell by 17 basis points to 10.62%.

#### **4. Outlook and Policy Implications**

The modest pace of domestic economic activity is expected to be sustained in 2013, supported by steady improvements in tourism output and gains in foreign investment-led construction activity. However, downside risks remain, related mainly to the United States economic outlook, as efforts by policy makers to constrain Government spending could slow the pace of the global recovery. Against this backdrop, domestic employment conditions are likely to remain challenging, while

inflation should stay mild, although domestic fuel costs will continue to be impacted by volatility in global oil markets.

Near and medium term outcomes in the fiscal sector remain dependent on the pace of economic activity and the success of announced measures to broaden the tax base, improve revenue administration and curtail Government spending.

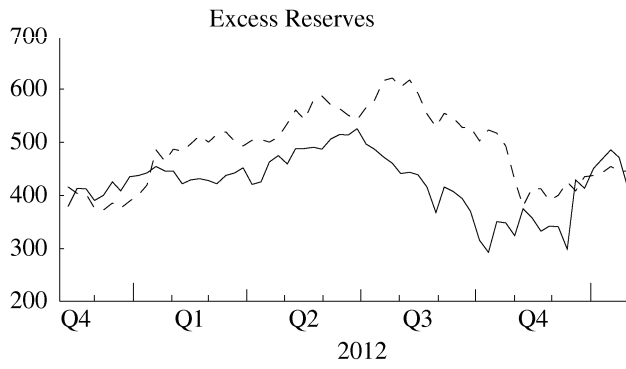
In the monetary sector, bank liquidity is projected to remain, on balance, buoyant in 2013, amid weak private demand, although the extent of any diminution in these levels, as well in external reserve balances, will depend on the rate at which the economy is able to generate new inflows from real sector activities. Given the ongoing challenges in the labour market, which is impacting the private sector's ability to meet ongoing debt commitments, private sector arrears are anticipated to remain elevated in the near-term. However, this is not expected to generate any financial stability concerns, given banks' healthy capital positions.

# Recent Monetary and Credit Statistics

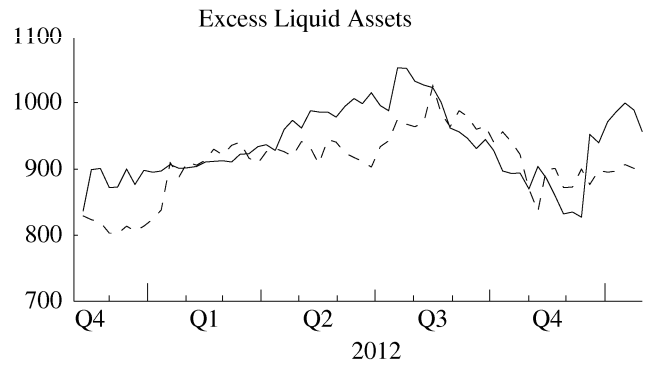
(B\$ Millions)

	<b>JANUARY</b>					
	<b>Value</b>		<b>Change</b>		<b>Change YTD</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>1.0 LIQUIDITY &amp; FOREIGN ASSETS</b>						
1.1 Excess Reserves	445.80	412.48	10.94	-37.54	10.94	-37.54
1.2 Excess Liquid Assets	900.11	955.34	2.95	-16.15	2.95	-16.15
1.3 External Reserves	869.87	789.96	-22.12	-22.14	-22.12	-22.14
1.4 Bank's Net Foreign Assets	-566.08	-601.29	42.97	20.50	42.97	20.50
1.5 Usable Reserves	425.38	350.26	-13.31	1.98	-13.31	1.98
<b>2.0 DOMESTIC CREDIT</b>						
<b>2.1 Private Sector</b>	<b>6,625.34</b>	<b>6,590.12</b>	<b>10.98</b>	<b>-26.23</b>	<b>10.98</b>	<b>-26.23</b>
a. B\$ Credit	6,271.34	6,197.06	11.20	-23.42	11.20	-23.42
of which: Consumer Credit	2,142.87	2,110.09	-3.79	-10.75	-3.79	-10.75
Mortgages	3,092.27	3,098.69	5.67	-4.38	5.67	-4.38
Commercial and Other Loans B\$	1,036.20	988.29	9.32	-8.29	9.32	-8.29
b. F/C Credit	354.00	393.06	-0.22	-2.82	-0.22	-2.82
of which: Mortgages	129.21	144.48	0.06	-0.26	0.06	-0.26
Commercial and Other Loans F/C	224.79	248.58	-0.29	-2.56	-0.29	-2.56
<b>2.2 Central Government (net)</b>	<b>1,429.79</b>	<b>1,658.18</b>	<b>-7.20</b>	<b>64.78</b>	<b>-7.20</b>	<b>64.78</b>
a. B\$ Loans & Securities	1,560.62	1,779.00	-3.73	62.27	-3.73	62.27
Less Deposits	128.33	120.00	2.69	-2.13	2.69	-2.13
b. F/C Loans & Securities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Less Deposits	2.50	0.83	0.78	-0.38	0.78	-0.38
<b>2.3 Rest of Public Sector</b>	<b>415.75</b>	<b>399.75</b>	<b>8.20</b>	<b>-7.29</b>	<b>8.20</b>	<b>-7.29</b>
a. B\$ Credit	114.46	114.54	11.03	-4.31	11.03	-4.31
b. F/C Credit	301.29	285.21	-2.83	-2.98	-2.83	-2.98
<b>2.4 Total Domestic Credit</b>	<b>8,470.95</b>	<b>8,648.06</b>	<b>12.03</b>	<b>30.69</b>	<b>12.03</b>	<b>30.69</b>
a. B\$ Domestic Credit	7,818.16	7,970.62	15.87	36.11	15.87	36.11
b. F/C Domestic Credit	652.80	677.44	-3.84	-5.42	-3.84	-5.42
<b>3.0 DEPOSIT BASE</b>						
3.1 Demand Deposits	1,269.83	1,360.52	34.52	2.56	34.52	2.56
a. Central Bank	7.75	5.43	-0.47	-6.65	-0.47	-6.65
b. Banks	1,262.08	1,355.09	34.99	9.21	34.99	9.21
3.2 Savings Deposits	1,056.87	1,072.13	-9.14	4.46	-9.14	4.46
3.3 Fixed Deposits	3,597.69	3,437.00	-9.11	14.80	-9.11	14.80
3.4 Total B\$ Deposits	5,924.39	5,869.65	16.27	21.82	16.27	21.82
3.5 F/C Deposits of Residents	226.72	238.54	33.85	15.39	33.85	15.39
<b>3.6 M2</b>	<b>6,099.49</b>	<b>6,066.01</b>	<b>-6.92</b>	<b>13.02</b>	<b>-6.92</b>	<b>13.02</b>
<b>3.7 External Reserves/M2 (%)</b>	<b>14.26</b>	<b>13.02</b>	<b>-0.35</b>	<b>-0.39</b>	<b>-0.35</b>	<b>-0.39</b>
<b>3.8 Reserves/Base Money (%)</b>	<b>99.85</b>	<b>92.22</b>	<b>-1.04</b>	<b>2.28</b>	<b>-1.04</b>	<b>2.28</b>
<b>3.9 External Reserves/Demand Liabilities (%)</b>	<b>97.85</b>	<b>89.83</b>	<b>-0.54</b>	<b>2.28</b>	<b>-0.54</b>	<b>2.28</b>
	<b>Value</b>		<b>Year to Date</b>		<b>Change</b>	
	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>4.0 FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS</b>						
<b>4.1 Central Bank Net Purchase/(Sale)</b>	<b>-21.60</b>	<b>-23.35</b>	<b>-21.60</b>	<b>-23.35</b>	<b>-1.76</b>	<b>-1.76</b>
a. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Banks	11.02	-7.29	11.02	-7.29	-18.31	-18.31
i. Sales to Banks	9.28	47.23	9.28	47.23	37.95	37.95
ii. Purchases from Banks	20.30	39.94	20.30	39.94	19.65	19.65
b. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Others	-32.62	-16.07	-32.62	-16.07	16.55	16.55
i. Sales to Others	53.84	40.55	53.84	40.55	-13.28	-13.28
ii. Purchases from Others	21.22	24.48	21.22	24.48	3.27	3.27
<b>4.2 Banks Net Purchase/(Sale)</b>	<b>23.09</b>	<b>-11.11</b>	<b>23.09</b>	<b>-11.11</b>	<b>-34.20</b>	<b>-34.20</b>
a. Sales to Customers	260.39	303.10	260.39	303.10	42.70	42.70
b. Purchases from Customers	283.48	291.98	283.48	291.98	8.50	8.50
<b>4.3 B\$ Position (change)</b>	<b>-14.72</b>	<b>-5.74</b>				
<b>5.0 EXCHANGE CONTROL SALES</b>						
<b>5.1 Current Items</b>	<b>196.35</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>196.35</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>ND</b>
<b>of which Public Sector</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>ND</b>
a. Nonoil Imports	93.86	ND	93.86	ND	ND	ND
b. Oil Imports	26.48	ND	26.48	ND	ND	ND
c. Travel	12.54	ND	12.54	ND	ND	ND
d. Factor Income	0.44	ND	0.44	ND	ND	ND
e. Transfers	5.55	ND	5.55	ND	ND	ND
f. Other Current Items	57.48	ND	57.48	ND	ND	ND
<b>5.2 Capital Items</b>	<b>6.38</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>6.38</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>ND</b>
<b>of which Public Sector</b>	<b>1.62</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>1.62</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>ND</b>
<b>5.3 Bank Remittances</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>ND</b>	<b>ND</b>

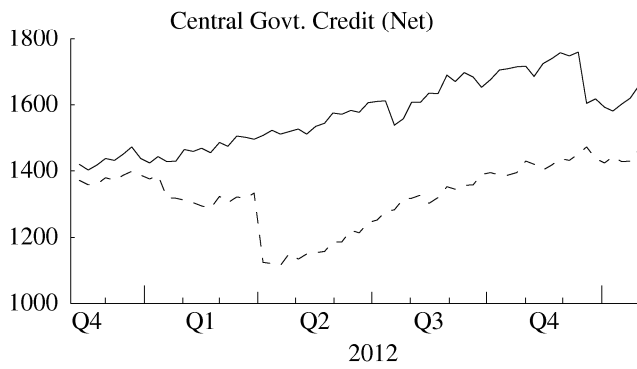
## SELECTED MONEY AND CREDIT INDICATORS (B\$ Millions)



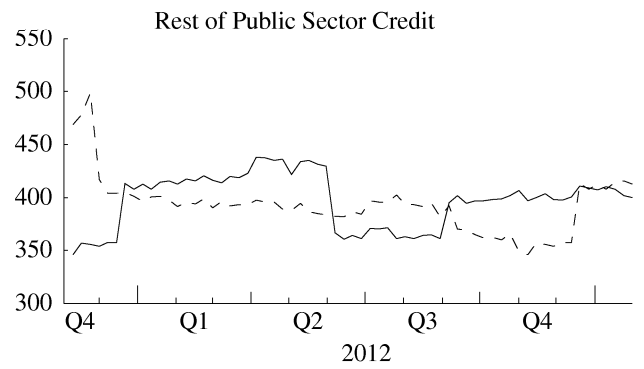
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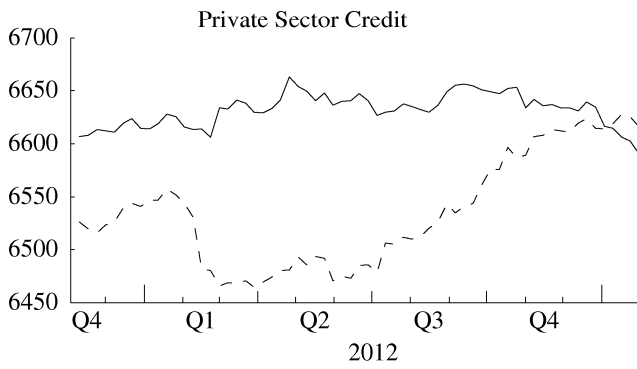
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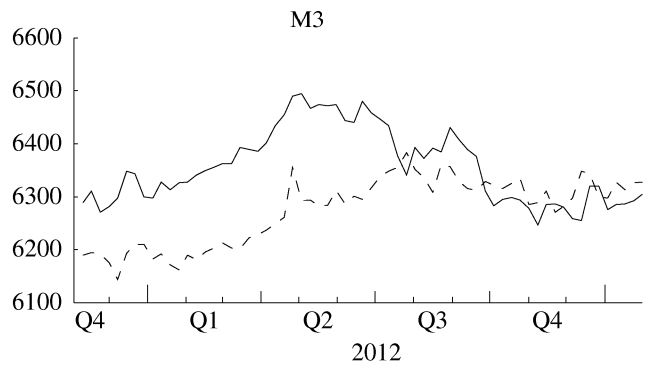
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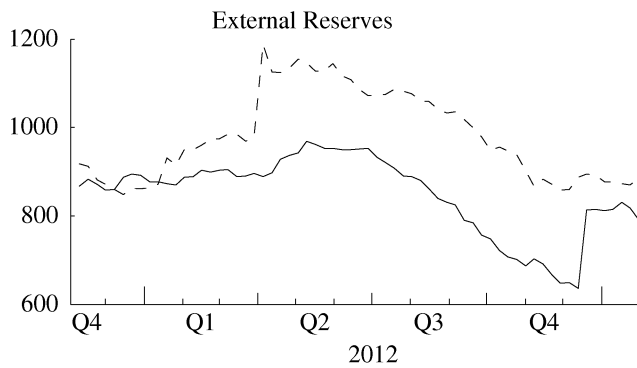
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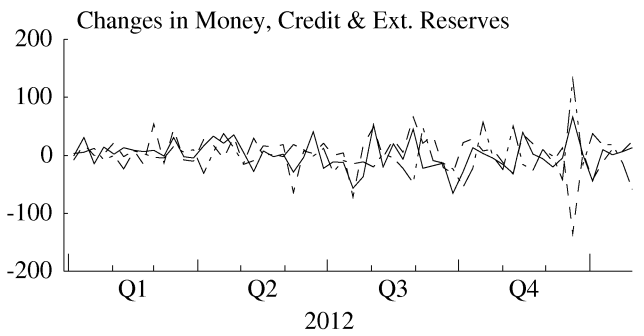
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— M3  
- - - Domestic Credit  
- · - External Reserves



## Selected International Statistics

<b>A: Selected Macroeconomic Projections</b> (Annual % Change and % of labor force)						
	Real GDP		Inflation Rate		Unemployment	
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
Bahamas	3.2	3.9	2.0	2.0	14.0	N/A
United States	2.3	2.0	2.0	1.8	8.2	8.1
Euro-Area	-0.4	-0.2	2.3	1.6	11.2	11.5
<i>Germany</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>5.3</i>
Japan	2.0	1.2	0.0	-0.2	4.5	4.4
China	7.8	8.2	3.0	3.0	4.1	4.1
United Kingdom	-0.2	1.0	2.7	1.9	8.1	8.1
Canada	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.0	7.3	7.3
<i>Source: IMF World Economic Outlook October 2012, IMF World Economic Outlook Update, January 2013</i>						

<b>B: Official Interest Rates – Selected Countries (%)</b>					
<i>With effect</i>  <i>from</i>	CBOB	ECB (EU)	Federal Reserve (US)		Bank of England
	Bank Rate	Refinancing Rate	Primary Credit Rate	Target Funds Rate	Repo Rate
December 2010	5.25	1.00	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
January 2011	5.25	1.00	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
February 2011	5.25	1.00	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
March 2011	5.25	1.00	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
April 2011	5.25	1.25	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
May 2011	5.25	1.25	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
June 2011	4.50	1.25	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
July 2011	4.50	1.50	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
August 2011	4.50	1.50	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
September 2011	4.50	1.50	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
October 2011	4.50	1.50	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
November 2011	4.50	1.25	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
December 2011	4.50	1.00	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
January 2012	4.50	1.00	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
February 2012	4.50	1.00	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
March 2012	4.50	1.00	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
April 2012	4.50	1.00	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
May 2012	4.50	1.00	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
June 2012	4.50	1.00	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
July 2012	4.50	0.75	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
August 2012	4.50	0.75	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
September 2012	4.50	0.75	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
October 2012	4.50	0.75	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
November 2012	4.50	0.75	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
December 2012	4.50	0.75	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
January 2013	4.50	0.75	0.75	0-0.25	0.50

## Selected International Statistics

<b>C. Selected Currencies (Per United States Dollars)</b>						
Currency	Jan-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change	12-Mth% Change
Euro	0.7643	0.7580	0.7365	-2.84	-2.84	-3.63
Yen	76.27	86.75	91.72	5.73	5.73	20.26
Pound	0.6345	0.6155	0.6306	2.46	2.46	-0.62
Canadian \$	1.0026	0.9922	0.9972	0.50	0.50	-0.54
Swiss Franc	0.9202	0.9156	0.9101	-0.60	-0.60	-1.10
Renminbi	6.3087	6.2316	6.2188	-0.21	-0.21	-1.43

*Source: Bloomberg as of January 31, 2013*

<b>D. Selected Commodity Prices (\$)</b>					
Commodity	January 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change
Gold / Ounce	1737.76	1675.35	1663.65	-0.70	-0.70
Silver / Ounce	33.17	30.35	31.45	3.65	3.65
Oil / Barrel	111.03	110.62	114.93	3.90	3.90

*Source: Bloomberg as of January 31, 2013*

<b>E. Equity Market Valuations – January 31, 2013 (%chg)</b>								
	BISX	DJIA	S&P 500	FTSE 100	CAC 40	DAX	Nikkei 225	SE
1 month	0.17	5.77	5.04	6.43	2.51	2.15	7.15	5.13
3 month	2.65	5.83	6.09	8.55	8.85	7.10	24.76	15.30
YTD	0.17	5.77	5.04	6.43	2.51	2.15	7.15	5.13
12-month	0.86	9.72	15.57	10.48	13.16	20.39	26.54	4.05

*Sources: Bloomberg and BISX*

<b>F: Short Term Deposit Rates in Selected Currencies (%)</b>			
	USD	GBP	EUR
<b>o/n</b>	0.23	0.47	0.02
<b>1 Month</b>	0.21	0.45	0.08
<b>3 Month</b>	0.30	0.48	0.16
<b>6 Month</b>	0.46	0.61	0.27
<b>9 Month</b>	0.58	0.75	0.39
<b>1 year</b>	0.69	0.91	0.54

*Source: Bloomberg as of January 31, 2013*

**SUMMARY ACCOUNTS OF THE CENTRAL BANK**  
(B\$ Millions)

	VALUE												CHANGE											
	Dec. 05	Dec. 12	Dec. 19	Dec. 26	Jan. 02	Jan. 09	Jan. 16	Jan. 23	Jan. 30	Dec. 05	Dec. 12	Dec. 19	Dec. 26	Jan. 02	Jan. 09	Jan. 16	Jan. 23	Jan. 30						
<b>I. External Reserves</b>	649.68	635.86	813.06	815.59	812.11	815.60	831.62	818.50	789.95	1.09	-13.82	177.20	2.52	-3.48	3.49	16.02	-13.12	-28.55						
<b>II. Net Domestic Assets (A + B + C + D)</b>	140.24	108.62	82.82	85.18	90.84	87.01	87.76	92.12	66.66	-6.21	-31.62	-25.79	2.36	5.66	-3.83	0.75	4.36	-25.47						
<b>A. Net Credit to Gov<sup>t</sup>( i + ii + iii - iv)</b>	443.71	412.34	383.26	386.79	395.33	391.83	394.69	394.57	366.57	-4.79	-31.37	-29.07	3.52	8.55	-3.50	2.86	-0.12	-28.00						
i) Advances	135.66	135.66	105.66	105.66	105.66	105.66	105.66	105.66	105.66	0.00	0.00	-30.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00						
ii) Registered Stock	168.82	168.69	168.60	168.50	169.49	169.20	169.10	169.05	168.99	0.06	-0.13	-0.09	-0.10	0.99	-0.29	-0.10	-0.05	-0.07						
iii) Treasury Bills	152.15	119.72	129.69	129.69	129.69	129.69	129.69	129.69	105.19	-2.49	-32.43	9.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-24.50						
iv) Deposits	12.92	11.73	20.68	17.06	9.50	12.71	9.76	9.82	13.26	2.36	-1.19	8.95	-3.62	-7.56	3.21	-2.96	0.07	3.43						
<b>B. Rest of Public Sector (Net) (i + ii - iii)</b>	-6.94	-5.80	-3.31	-3.96	-7.33	-8.14	-9.68	-0.73	-0.68	-0.42	1.14	2.49	-0.64	-3.37	-0.80	-1.55	8.95	0.05						
i) BDB Loans	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00						
ii) BMC Bonds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00						
iii) Deposits	11.69	10.55	8.06	8.71	12.08	12.89	14.43	5.48	5.43	0.42	-1.14	-2.49	0.64	3.37	0.80	1.55	-8.95	-0.05						
<b>C. Loans to/Deposits with Banks</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00						
<b>D. Other Items (Net)*</b>	-296.53	-297.92	-297.12	-297.64	-297.16	-296.69	-297.25	-301.72	-299.23	-1.00	-1.39	0.79	-0.52	0.48	0.47	-0.56	-4.47	2.48						
<b>III. Monetary Base</b>	789.92	744.48	895.89	900.77	902.95	902.61	919.38	910.63	856.61	-5.13	-45.44	151.41	4.88	2.18	-0.34	16.78	-8.76	-54.02						
A. Currency in Circulation	303.28	307.24	318.20	330.15	333.63	313.50	295.71	298.09	293.20	1.94	3.96	10.96	11.95	3.48	-20.13	-17.79	2.39	-4.89						
B. Bank Balances with CBOB	486.64	437.24	577.69	570.62	569.32	589.11	623.68	612.53	563.40	-7.07	-49.40	140.45	-7.07	-1.30	19.79	34.57	-11.15	-49.13						

\* Includes capital, provisions and surplus account, fixed and other assets, and other demand liabilities of Bank

