



Monthly Economic and Financial Developments November 2008

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:

2009: February 2, March 2, March 30, May 3, June 1, June 29, August 4, August 31, September 28, November 2, December 29.

Monthly Economic and Financial Developments (November 2008)

1. Domestic Economic Developments

Indications are that domestic economic activity continued to weaken during November, amid the deepening effects of the global economic meltdown. The outlook for tourism remained weak, hampered by uncertainty in US households' finances; and the foreign investment climate depressed, owing both to tight credit markets and the negative short-term outlook on projects' returns. Despite recent significant reductions in global crude oil prices, domestic inflation continued to firm, reflecting the lagged effect of earlier price increases on finished goods and transportation costs. Meanwhile, monetary developments featured a reduction in liquidity and external reserves, as faster credit growth outpaced firmer gains in the deposit base.

In the tourism sector, although cumulative data for the first nine months of 2008 indicated a 5.8% improvement in hotel room revenues, the more recent slump in performance was highlighted by a 37.7% falloff in comparative receipts for the month of September. This was largely explained by a one-third decline in occupied hotel room nights, alongside a 6.3% drop in average nightly room rates. While the average room rate appreciated by 9.4% on a year-to-date basis, room night sales contracted by 3.3%. The industry slowdown was broad-based, with New Providence properties experiencing a 36.9% reduction in September revenues, cutting into a 10.6% cumulative gain for the first nine months of the year. In Grand Bahama, where September losses were estimated at 37.1%, room revenues declined on a year-to-date basis by 18.7%. Meanwhile, the Family Island surveyed properties experienced a nearly 50 percent contraction in revenue during September and 6.8% reduction for the year-to-date. While reduced room sales featured all of the trends, September pricing discounts were estimated at 4.5% for New Providence, 3.5% for Grand Bahama and 34.7% for the Family Islands.

Reflecting broad-based price increases, inflation during the twelve-months to November advanced by 1.90 percentage points to 4.4%. The largest cost increases were noted for furniture and household operations (6.8%), other goods and services (6.8%), food and beverages (6.3%), medical care and health (5.0%), transport and communications (3.4%) and housing (3.3%); while gains of less than 3.0% were registered for the remaining categories. In contrast, as oil prices continued to trend downwards, the average retail cost of gasoline in New Providence declined on a monthly basis, by 21.2% to \$4.05 per gallon and diesel by 20.0% to \$3.89 per gallon. These compared to respective prices of \$4.56 and \$3.97 per gallon in November 2007.

2. International Developments

As the global financial crisis intensified during the review period, recessionary conditions became more pronounced in most of the major economies. Consequently, several authorities implemented monetary and fiscal measures aimed at stabilizing their respective economies, including further interest rate cuts.

In the United States, where revised assessments by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) declared that the economy had been in recession since December 2007, indications are

that real GDP contracted in the third quarter contracted by 0.5%. The latest construction data for October revealed that housing starts and completions fell on a monthly basis by 4.5% and 10.2%, respectively, while the forward looking indicator of building permits issued, contracted by 12.0%. In US labour markets, employers reduced their payrolls by 533,000 during November, resulting in an overall loss of 1.91 million jobs since the start of 2008, and a 0.2 percentage points firming in the unemployment rate to 6.7%. Similarly, personal consumption expenditures fell by 0.5% in October, led by lower outlays for motor vehicles and energy, while consumer confidence index rose by 6.1 points to 44.9 in November, after falling to an all-time low of 38.8 in October.

In November, the US Government continued to provide relief for many financial institutions that were nearing bankruptcy, including capital and other support, which brought the total assistance to two of the largest financial service companies to \$150 billion and \$20.0 billion, respectively¹. In addition, the Federal Reserve, in a further attempt to reduce mortgage rates and stimulate demand for housing, announced that it would purchase approximately \$100 billion in the direct obligations of the Government sponsored enterprises and \$500 billion in mortgage backed securities.

As conditions continued to weaken, the UK economy contracted for the first time in 16 years, by 0.5 percent in the third quarter. The outcome was partly the result of a 0.2% reduction in consumer spending and a 2.4% contraction in fixed investments. Additionally, the deficit on trade in goods and services rose by £0.4 billion to £3.9 billion in October, reflecting a downturn in exports, which outweighed the decline in imports. However, inflation in October decreased to 4.5%, as falling oil prices reduced transportation costs. Meanwhile, in a move to mitigate the effects of the financial crisis, the Bank of England lowered its main interest rate by 1.5 percentage points to 3.0%.

In the Euro area, real GDP declined by an estimated 0.2% during the third quarter, owing to reduced investments and a deterioration in the trade balance. Data for October revealed that the unemployment rate firmed by 0.1 percentage points to 7.7%; albeit, inflation tapered to 2.1% from 3.2% in the previous month. To address the continued deterioration, European Union governments proposed a combined \$259 billion expenditure package to stimulate aggregate demand. As the outlook for inflation improved, the European Central Bank cut each of its benchmark interest rates by 50 basis points.

Reflecting signs of a slowdown in China's economic growth, exports contracted by 2.2% in November and imports plunged by 17.9%. In addition, the expansion in industrial output receded to an estimated 8.0% for the first 10 months of the year, vis-à-vis a 15.2% improvement in the comparable period a year earlier. To provide support for economic activity, the Bank of China reduced its one year lending and deposit rates in November by 108 basis points each to 5.58% and 2.52%, respectively.

In Japan, real GDP contracted by 1.8% on an annualized basis during the third quarter, as businesses decreased expenditures and reduced existing inventories. Amid lower transportation and communication costs, consumer prices fell by 0.1% on a monthly basis in October, while the unemployment rate moved marginally lower by 0.1 percentage points to 3.7%. Although the Bank of Japan kept its key interest rate at 0.3% in November, indications are that it would consider injecting more funds into the financial system in an effort to bolster the weak economy.

¹ American International Group (AIG) Inc. and Citigroup.

International oil prices contracted further by 17.0% to \$53.0 per barrel in November, mainly attributed to declining demand and reduced speculative pressures. Prices were also sent lower by a strengthening in the US dollar, which restored some of the real value to oil contracts priced in this currency. In contrast, the price of gold and silver advanced by 12.9% and 4.6% to \$818.05 and \$10.30 per ounce, respectively.

The economic weakness and increased uncertainty about the sustainability of several large corporations continued to rattle investor confidence, causing further declines in most major stock market indices. During November, the United States' Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) and the S&P 500 indices decreased by 5.3% and 7.4% to 8,829.0 points and 895.3 points, respectively. Similarly, in Europe, France's CAC-40 index fell by 6.4% to 3,262.68 points; Germany's DAX, by 6.4% to 4,669.4 points; and the UK's FTSE 100 index, by 2.0% to 4,288.0 points. Results for the Asian indices were mixed, with China's SE composite advancing by 8.2% to 1,871.2 points and Japan's Nikkei 225 index reduced by 0.2%, to 8,512.3 points.

3. Domestic Monetary Trend

Comparatively accelerated Bahamian dollar credit expansion during November outpaced firmed growth in Bahamian dollar deposits, causing in a reduction in both bank liquidity and external reserves. However, over the eleven-months through November, both liquidity and foreign reserves remained more buoyant, owing to a more decelerated trend in credit growth relative to deposits.

November 2008 vs. 2007

During the month of November, excess reserves fell by \$0.7 million, in contrast to a \$16.6 million advance in the previous year. Largely corresponding to a reduction in Treasury bill holdings, banks' excess liquid assets contracted by \$36.0 million, reversing the \$8.7 million increase in the preceding period.

The monthly reduction in external reserves widened to \$36.2 million from \$9.8 million last year, as the Central Bank's net foreign currency sale rose by \$26.4 million to \$36.6 million. Transactions with commercial banks were reversed, from a net purchase of \$12.0 million in 2007 to a net sale of \$13.6 million, and the net sale to the public sector rose by \$0.8 million to \$23.0 million. Meanwhile, commercial banks' net purchase from customers weakened by \$3.3 million to \$2.7 million.

Bahamian dollar credit growth firmed to \$71.7 million from \$62.9 million in November 2007. Expansion in private sector credit slowed to \$38.8 million from \$46.2 million, with gains in consumer loans sharply moderated by \$19.8 million to \$11.9 million and mortgages by \$0.2 million to \$17.4 million. Credit to the rest of the public sector fell by \$10.8 million, a turnaround from a \$0.5 million increase a year earlier. However, these were outweighed by strengthened growth in net claims on the Government, to \$43.7 million from \$16.2 million in 2007

During November, foreign currency credit rose by \$6.7 million, in contrast to a \$29.4 million reduction last year. Credit to the public corporations rebounded by \$7.5 million, following a \$15.4 million decline in 2007; and the contraction in private sector credit tapered to \$1.1 million from \$13.5 million.

Accretions to total Bahamian dollar deposits nearly doubled to \$43.7 million. Supporting this development were rebounds in both savings and demand deposits, of \$15.4 million and \$13.2 million, from respective reductions of \$0.2 million and \$4.6 million a year earlier. Growth in fixed deposits tapered, however, by 50% to \$15.2 million.

With regards to interest rates, the weighted average deposit rate at banks firmed by 3 basis points to 3.81%, with the highest rate of 6.00% offered on fixed deposits of over 12 months. In contrast, the weighted average loan rate fell by 11 basis points to 10.41%.

January – November 2008

During the first eleven months of 2008, excess reserves growth waned by 83.1% to \$20.8 million. Accretions to excess liquid assets slowed less sharply, to \$131.2 million from \$170.2 million a year earlier, buoyed significantly by the proceeds from public sector net foreign currency borrowings.

During the eleven-month period, external reserves rose by \$135.2 million, in contrast to a \$4.6 million contraction in the comparative 2007 period. This expansion was underpinned by a turnaround in the Central Bank's foreign currency transactions, to a net purchase of \$124.5 million from a net sale of \$24.7 million in 2007. Reflecting a \$31.0 million advance in receipts from their customers to \$205.6 million, commercial banks' sales to the Bank rose by \$30.2 million to \$211.2 million. Meanwhile, given significant offsets from foreign currency borrowings, the Banks' net sale to the public sector tapered by 57.8% to \$86.7 million.

Bahamian dollar credit growth abated by 28.0% to \$426.4 million, reflecting moderation in both private sector and Government trends. In particular, with the majority of its financing secured from external sources, the rise in claims on the Government narrowed to \$55.7 million from \$195.0 million last year. Also, the pace of private sector credit expansion decelerated by 22.0% to \$357.4 million, as increases in consumer loans and residential mortgages moderated by 33.8% and 26.7%, to \$122.0 million and \$196.0 million, respectively. Credit to the rest of the public sector rebounded by \$13.3 million, after a \$61.5 million net repayment in 2007.

Available data for the first ten months of the year indicate that consumer lending was dominated by debt consolidation, which registered more than twofold extension in growth of \$79.5 million; and by increased net credit card advances of \$5.0 million to \$25.6 million. In contrast, growth in loans for land purchases moderated sharply by \$10.5 million to \$11.9 million; home improvement, by \$2.1 million to \$8.9 million and was halved for travel, to \$1.9 million. However, outstanding credit contracted for private cars by \$5.4 million; for miscellaneous purposes, by \$4.7 million; for commercial vehicles by \$0.7 million and for furniture & domestic appliances, by \$0.6 million.

Asset quality indicators for the month of November showed continued deterioration, as the value of private sector Bahamian dollar loan balances encountering payments arrears of 31 days and over rose further by \$93.0 million (14.2%) to \$749.0 million. These corresponded to an estimated 12.25% of total loans, compared to 9.27% at end-December 2007. In terms of the aging of accounts, balances with arrears in the 31 – 90 days range rose by \$43.1 million (13.5%) to \$361.0 million, while "non-performing loans", with past due payments of at least 90 days, on which banks stopped accruing interest, advanced by \$49.9 million (14.8%) to \$387.0 million. By lending

category, the largest growth in arrears during November was noted for consumer loans (27.9%), with the rate of arrears higher at 11.71% from 9.50% of the respective portfolio in October and 8.32% in December 2007. The value of residential mortgages encountering arrears also rose (12.3%), increasing the arrears rate to 11.98% from 10.74% in October and 10.44% in December 2007. Although the value of commercial loans in arrears fell marginally in November, owing to a larger net repayment in the total portfolio, the arrears rate still advanced to 15.90% from 15.73%, and remained significantly above the 9.26% at end-2007. Although banks continued to increase their provisions for bad loans, the faster pace of arrears growth placed the ratio of provisions to total arrears lower at 21.87% from 24.41% in October and 22.77% at December 2007.

Foreign currency credit contraction more than tripled to \$18.0 million during the eleven-month period. This outturn reflected a net repayment of \$95.3 million by the private sector, a turnaround from 2007's \$19.8 million increase. Net claims on the Government also decreased further, by \$23.7 million vis-a-vis \$2.6 million a year earlier. In contrast, credit to the rest of the public sector recovered by \$101.0 million, following a \$23.3 million decline in 2007, and was largely associated with the financing of increased cost of imported fuel.

During the review period, Bahamian dollar deposit growth slowed by 12.6% to \$335.1 million, as accretions to savings and fixed deposits were lower by 29.5% and 19.2% to \$36.2 million and \$282.3 million, respectively. In contrast, demand deposits rose by \$16.6 million, a turnaround from a \$17.6 million reduction in the previous year.

4. Outlook and Policy Implications

Domestic economy activity is expected to remain weak in 2009 and possibly a portion of 2010, owing to a projected slump in tourism demand, and contracted foreign investment inflows amid the persistent tightness in global credit markets and cautious investor behaviour. Some offset to the slowdown in private sector activity is expected to be provided from increased public sector infrastructural investments; which, given the less favourable support for revenue performance, is likely to cause some expansion of the fiscal deficit and increased debt levels to GDP in the medium term, as revenue receipts soften. In this environment, private sector credit growth is expected to remain moribund, both in view of a projected slowdown in deposit growth and a more cautious lending posture against increased credit risks. Meanwhile, external reserves, which ended 2008 at approximately \$563 million, are likely to face increased negative pressures in 2009, owing to the softened support from private foreign currency inflows. Nevertheless, balances should receive some support from the anticipated public sector external borrowing for capital works and the tempered foreign currency demand as a result of the slower pace of domestic credit expansion. The Central Bank will continue to monitor developments to ensure the stability of both the exchange rate and domestic financial system.

Recent Monetary and Credit Statistics

(B\$ Millions)

	NOVEMBER					
	Value		Change		Change YTD	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
1.0 LIQUIDITY & FOREIGN ASSETS						
1.1 Excess Reserves	259.58	262.48	16.56	-0.73	123.41	20.79
1.2 Excess Liquid Assets	179.67	285.99	8.74	-36.01	170.24	131.15
1.3 External Reserves	447.31	590.02	-9.84	-36.20	-4.60	135.21
1.4 Bank's Net Foreign Assets	-654.17	-701.64	50.54	17.15	-21.78	-12.79
1.5 Usable Reserves	101.17	235.40	-13.66	-27.20	-57.54	130.92

2.0 DOMESTIC CREDIT

2.1 Private Sector	6,126.06	6,472.04	32.68	37.78	478.02	262.09
a. B\$ Credit	5,611.84	6,035.56	46.20	38.84	458.26	357.42
of which: Consumer Credit	2,070.41	2,223.69	31.76	11.94	184.06	121.98
Mortgages	2,507.74	2,736.25	17.61	17.41	267.47	196.03
b. F/C Credit	514.21	436.47	-13.53	-1.06	19.76	-95.33
of which: Mortgages	49.71	80.58	8.87	0.10	18.39	26.56
2.2 Central Government (net)	860.47	889.06	15.69	43.89	192.44	32.03
a. B\$ Loans & Securities	971.18	1,037.27	9.60	43.51	181.96	73.67
Less Deposits	110.80	146.15	-6.57	-0.14	-13.04	17.98
b. F/C Loans & Securities	3.33	2.48	-0.75	-0.90	-1.64	-20.68
Less Deposits	3.23	4.54	-0.27	-1.14	0.93	2.98
2.3 Rest of Public Sector	288.80	393.40	-14.90	-3.33	-84.88	114.21
a. B\$ Credit	70.23	76.35	0.50	-10.81	-61.54	13.26
b. F/C Credit	218.58	317.05	-15.40	7.47	-23.34	100.95
2.4 Total Domestic Credit	7,275.33	7,754.50	33.46	78.34	585.58	408.34
a. B\$ Domestic Credit	6,542.45	7,003.04	62.87	71.69	591.73	426.37
b. F/C Domestic Credit	732.89	751.47	-29.41	6.65	-6.15	-18.03

3.0 DEPOSIT BASE

3.1 Demand Deposits	1,059.17	1,105.17	-4.55	13.20	-17.59	16.59
a. Central Bank	6.54	1.69	-17.22	-16.81	-10.67	-8.13
b. Banks	1,052.63	1,103.48	12.68	30.02	-6.92	24.72
3.2 Savings Deposits	1,002.09	1,027.55	-0.21	15.37	51.38	36.20
3.3 Fixed Deposits	3,130.45	3,437.85	30.36	15.16	349.50	282.32
3.4 Total B\$ Deposits	5,191.71	5,570.57	25.61	43.74	383.29	335.10
3.5 F/C Deposits of Residents	207.15	156.68	23.65	5.57	26.23	-43.00
3.6 M2	5,391.96	5,769.13	32.44	42.07	358.38	320.58
3.7 External Reserves/M2 (%)	8.30	10.23	-0.23	-0.71	-0.68	1.88
3.8 Reserves/Base Money (%)	66.14	84.99	-3.88	-4.96	-14.25	17.42
3.9 External Reserves/Demand Liabilities (%)	64.57	83.10	-2.14	-2.92	ND	ND

	Value		Year to Date		Change	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	Month	YTD
4.0 FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS						
4.1 Central Bank Net Purchase/(Sale)	-10.21	-36.62	-24.68	124.47	-26.41	149.15
a. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Banks	11.98	-13.63	181.03	211.18	-25.62	30.15
i. Sales to Banks	9.17	29.07	266.40	212.12	19.91	-54.29
ii. Purchases from Banks	21.15	15.44	447.43	423.30	-5.71	-24.13
b. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Others	-22.20	-22.99	-205.71	-86.71	-0.80	118.99
i. Sales to Others	39.47	38.13	448.68	629.06	-1.34	180.38
ii. Purchases from Others	17.27	15.14	242.97	542.35	-2.14	299.38
4.2 Banks Net Purchase/(Sale)	5.99	2.68	174.66	205.63	-3.31	30.96
a. Sales to Customers	258.50	330.32	3,236.56	4,101.17	71.82	864.61
b. Purchases from Customers	264.49	333.00	3,411.22	4,306.79	68.52	895.58
4.3 B\$ Position (change)	5.70	-13.15				

5.0 EXCHANGE CONTROL SALES

	Oct 07	Oct 08				
5.1 Current Items	281.56	239.98	3,060.63	3,428.60	-41.58	367.98
of which Public Sector	39.33	38.33	483.39	595.15	-1.01	111.76
a. Nonoil Imports	118.73	108.88	1,276.84	1,318.28	-9.85	41.44
b. Oil Imports	32.64	32.50	411.09	662.32	-0.14	251.23
c. Travel	24.14	15.31	244.83	237.72	-8.83	-7.10
d. Factor Income	4.94	3.95	90.66	70.92	-0.99	-19.74
e. Transfers	8.82	6.05	83.36	80.68	-2.76	-2.68
f. Other Current Items	92.29	73.28	953.85	1,058.68	-19.01	104.83
5.2 Capital Items	7.13	4.14	97.47	97.83	-2.99	0.35
of which Public Sector	4.90	1.42	39.86	31.25	-3.48	-8.61
5.3 Bank Remittances	0.00	0.00	24,868.00	3,051.00	0.00	-21,817.00

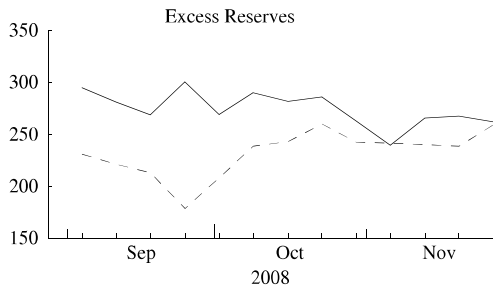
Sources: Research Department Weekly Brief Database and Banking Brief for the weeks ending: NOVEMBER 28, 2007 and NOVEMBER 26, 2008

Exchange Control Sales figures are as at month end.

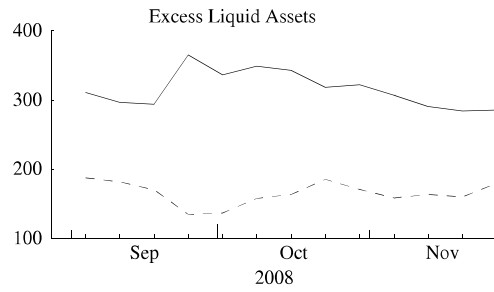
Notes: 1.0, 2.0 and 3.0 YTD change reflects change of current month over previous year end; for 4.0 and 5.0 change is over corresponding period of previous year.

Components may not sum to totals due to round-off error.

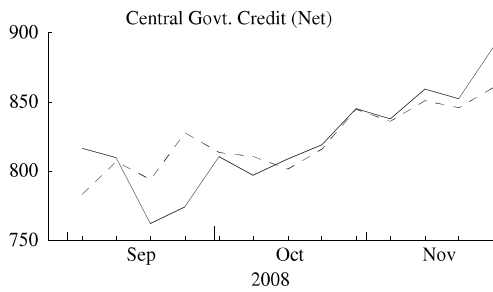
SELECTED MONEY AND CREDIT INDICATORS (B\$ Millions)



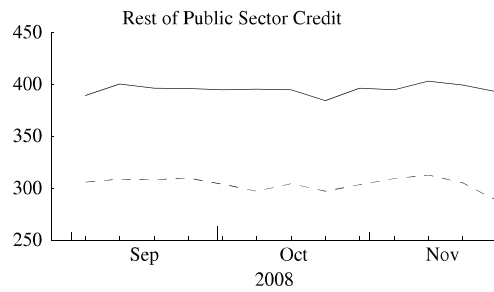
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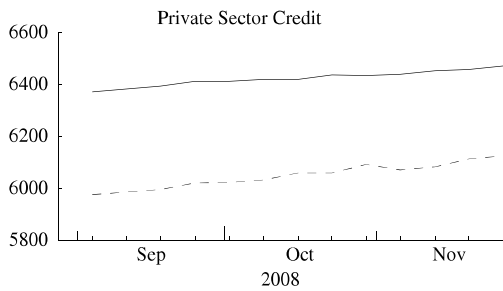
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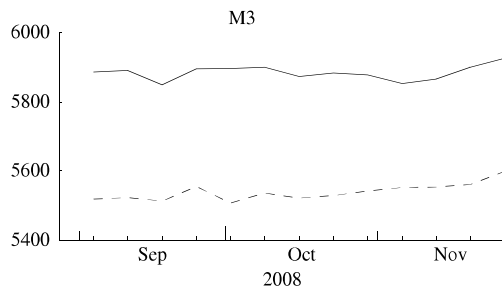
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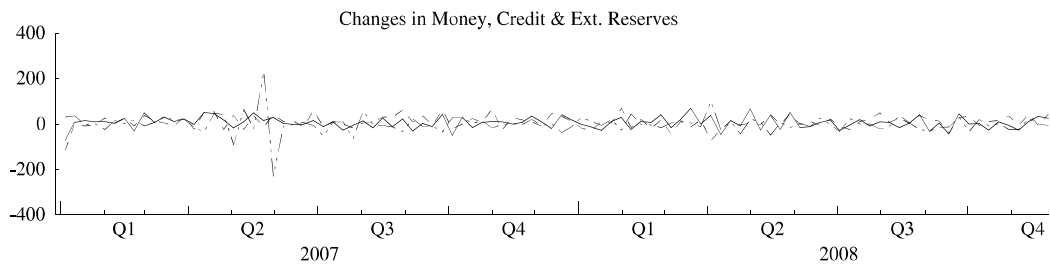
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— M3
- - - Domestic Credit
... External Reserves

Selected International Statistics

A: Selected Macroeconomic Projections (Annual % Change and % of labor force)						
	Real GDP		Inflation Rate		Unemployment	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
Bahamas	4.2	3.2	5.7	2.0	8.7	n/a
United States	1.6	0.1	4.2	1.8	5.6	6.9
Euro-Area	1.3	0.2	3.5	1.9	7.6	8.3
<i>Germany</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>7.4</i>	<i>8.0</i>
Japan	0.7	0.5	0.6	1.6	4.1	4.5
United Kingdom	1.0	-0.1	3.8	2.9	5.4	6.0
Canada	0.7	1.2	2.5	2.1	6.2	6.3
<i>Sources: IMF World Economic Outlook, October 2008 & The Bahamas Department of Statistics.</i>						

B: Official Interest Rates – Selected Countries (%)					
<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 2006	5.25	3.50	6.25	5.25	5.00
January 2007	5.25	3.50	6.25	5.25	5.25
February 2007	5.25	3.50	6.25	5.25	5.25
March 2007	5.25	3.75	6.25	5.25	5.25
April 2007	5.25	3.75	6.25	5.25	5.25
May 2007	5.25	3.75	6.25	5.25	5.50
June 2007	5.25	4.00	6.25	5.25	5.50
July 2007	5.25	4.00	6.25	5.25	5.75
August 2007	5.25	4.00	5.75	5.25	5.75
September 2007	5.25	4.00	5.25	4.75	5.75
October 2007	5.25	4.00	5.00	4.50	5.75
November 2007	5.25	4.00	5.00	4.50	5.75
December 2007	5.25	4.00	4.75	4.25	5.50
January 2008	5.25	4.00	3.50	3.00	5.50
February 2008	5.25	4.00	3.50	3.00	5.25
March 2008	5.25	4.00	2.50	2.25	5.25
April 2008	5.25	4.00	2.25	2.00	5.00
May 2008	5.25	4.00	2.25	2.00	5.00
June 2008	5.25	4.00	2.25	2.00	5.00
July 2008	5.25	4.25	2.25	2.00	5.00
August 2008	5.25	4.25	2.25	2.00	5.00
September 2008	5.25	4.25	2.25	2.00	5.00
October 2008	5.25	3.75	1.25	1.00	4.50
November 2008	5.25	3.25	1.25	1.00	3.00

Selected International Statistics

C. Selected Currencies (Per United States Dollars)						
Currency	Nov-07	Oct-08	Nov-08	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change	12-Mth% Change
Euro	0.6834	0.7859	0.7880	0.3	15.0	15.3
Yen	11.23	98.46	95.52	-3.0	-14.5	-14.1
Pound	0.4863	0.6220	0.6505	4.6	29.1	33.8
Canadian \$	0.9985	1.2124	1.2399	2.3	24.2	24.2
Swiss Franc	1.1318	1.1579	1.2138	4.8	7.1	7.2

Source: Bloomberg as at November 30, 2008

D. Selected Commodity Prices (\$)					
Commodity	November 2007	October 2008	November 2008	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change
Gold / Ounce	783.75	724.55	818.05	12.9	-1.9
Silver / Ounce	14.01	9.85	10.30	4.6	-30.4
Oil / Barrel	91.37	63.95	53.09	-17.0	-44.1

Source: Bloomberg as at November 30, 2008

E. Equity Market Valuations – November 30, 2008 (%chg)								
	BISX	DJIA	S&P 500	FTSE 100	CAC 40	DAX	Nikkei 225	SE
1 month	-0.83	-5.32	-7.44	-2.04	-6.43	-6.39	-0.75	8.24
3 month	-2.46	-18.63	-23.41	-12.53	-19.08	-19.92	-24.40	-18.42
YTD	-13.33	-33.44	-39.39	-33.59	-41.88	-42.12	-44.39	-64.44
12-month	-10.85	-33.97	-40.04	-33.34	-42.46	-40.67	-45.71	-61.59

Sources: Bloomberg and BISX

F: Short Term Deposit Rates in Selected Currencies (%)			
	USD	GBP	EUR
o/n	0.40	2.70	2.70
1 Month	1.85	3.10	3.40
3 Month	2.25	3.85	3.75
6 Month	2.85	3.70	3.75
9 Month	3.56	3.70	3.80
1 year	3.63	3.60	4.03

Source: Bloomberg, as at November 30, 2008

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

	VALUE										CHANGE							
	Oct. 01	Oct. 08	Oct. 15	Oct. 22	Oct. 29	Nov. 05	Nov. 12	Nov. 19	Nov. 26	Oct. 01	Oct. 08	Oct. 15	Oct. 22	Oct. 29	Nov. 05	Nov. 12	Nov. 19	Nov. 26
I. External Reserves	649.57	656.00	647.40	644.87	626.22	609.83	594.50	585.21	589.99	-19.82	6.43	-8.60	-2.53	-18.65	-16.39	-15.33	-9.29	4.78
II. Net Domestic Assets (A + B + C + D)	-146.78	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	-9.83	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
A. Net Credit to Gov't (i + ii + iii - iv)	184.21	183.32	182.72	183.37	186.01	183.45	223.25	212.95	212.95	-0.93	-0.89	-0.60	0.65	2.65	-2.56	38.57	1.23	-10.30
i) Advances	71.99	71.99	71.99	71.99	71.99	71.99	71.99	71.99	71.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ii) Registered Stock	127.18	127.16	127.04	126.78	126.33	126.33	126.15	125.77	125.77	0.12	-0.03	-0.12	-0.26	-0.46	0.00	-0.19	0.01	-0.38
iii) Treasury Bills	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	38.17	28.24	28.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	44.15	-5.97	-9.93
iv) Deposits	14.96	15.83	16.31	15.40	12.30	14.86	13.07	13.05	13.05	1.05	0.86	0.48	-0.91	-3.10	2.56	5.39	-7.19	-0.02
B. Rest of Public Sector (Net) (i + ii - iii)	-23.16	-15.06	-9.57	-9.47	-12.03	-10.09	5.93	4.79	4.79	1.84	8.09	5.49	0.10	-2.56	1.94	-3.34	19.35	-1.14
i) BDB Loans	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.55	6.48	6.48	6.48	6.48	6.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.08	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	29.71	21.61	16.12	16.02	18.50	16.56	0.55	1.69	1.69	-1.84	-8.09	-5.49	-0.10	2.48	-1.94	3.34	-19.35	1.14
C. Loans to/Deposits with Banks	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
D. Other Items (Net)*	-307.83	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	-10.75	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
III. Monetary Base	502.79	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	-29.65	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
A. Currency in Circulation	86.19	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	-1.42	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
B. Bank Balances with CBOB	416.60	431.48	427.85	428.76	415.08	384.21	420.84	411.43	411.43	-28.23	14.88	-3.62	0.91	-13.68	-30.87	25.38	11.25	-9.41

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