Release Date: 2 October 2013



Monthly Economic and Financial Developments August 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: November 4, December 2, December 23.

Monthly Economic and Financial Developments August 2013

1. Domestic Economic Developments

Domestic economic activity remained relatively subdued in August, amid ongoing softness in the tourism sector's performance, although foreign investment-related construction activity continued to provide a steady positive contribution. In other real sector outcomes, consumer price indications featured modest gains in domestic fuel costs, due to the recent firming in global oil prices. The fiscal deficit declined for the first month of FY2013/14, reflecting broad-based gains in revenues, combined with a lower aggregate expenditure level. In the monetary sector, both liquidity and external reserves contracted moderately in August, consistent with the seasonal increase in foreign currency demand to facilitate current payments.

Preliminary hotel performance indicators for August, based on a sample of major hotels in New Providence and Paradise Island, showed that total room revenues fell by an additional 8.0% during the review month, following a 7.0% contraction in the prior period. This outturn reflected a 4.4 percentage point reduction in the occupancy rate to 71.3%, which eclipsed the 1.3% gain in the average daily room rate (ADR) to \$208.61. In addition, over the eight month period, revenues from the properties surveyed contracted by 7.0%, owing to a broad-based decrease in the occupancy rate by 4.9 percentage points to 69.8%, which outweighed the 3.0% rise in the average daily room rate (ADR) to \$245.76.

Consistent with the modest uptrend in international oil prices, domestic fuel costs rose during the month of August. Specifically, the prices of gasoline and diesel grew by 2.4% and 2.7% over the month, to \$5.44 and \$4.99 per gallon, and on an annual basis, both fuels firmed by 3.4% and 2.5%, respectively. In contrast, the Bahamas Electricity Corporation's fuel charge declined by 2.5% in August to 26.65¢ per kilowatt hour (kWh), and by 2.9% year-on-year.

The Government's overall deficit for the first month of FY2013/14 narrowed by \$9.4 million (38.5%) to \$15.0 million, buoyed by a \$5.1 million (4.8%) expansion in total revenue to \$112.4 million and a \$4.3 million (3.3%) reduction in aggregate expenditure to \$127.4 million. On the revenue side, the modest increase in tax receipts, by \$2.3 million (2.3%) to \$102.0 million, included a \$9.5 million (24.4%) advance in 'other' taxes and a \$1.3 million rise in selective taxes on services, which outweighed the \$7.7 million contraction in taxes on international trade. Further, the \$2.8 million (37.3%) gain in non-tax revenue to \$10.4 million was primarily explained by a \$3.4 million hike in income from fines, forfeitures & administrative fees, which offset broad-based declines in the other components. The contraction in aggregate expenditure was led by a \$9.3 million (67.4%) decrease in capital outlays to \$4.5 million, reflecting reduced spending on infrastructure developments and asset acquisitions, by \$7.7 million and \$1.1 million, respectively. In contrast, recurrent spending expanded by \$4.6 million (3.9%) to \$121.9 million, as the \$5.5 million increase in debt-related transfer payments, outstripped a \$0.9 million fall in consumption outlays.

2. International Developments

Indications are that the mild global growth momentum was sustained during the review month, supported by further gains in the United States economy, ongoing expansion in the export-driven Asian markets, and the gradual emergence of Europe from its almost year-long recession. In an effort to support the recovery, the major central banks maintained their highly accommodative monetary policy stance.

Economic conditions in the United States continued to improve, as real GDP growth accelerated to an estimated 2.5% in the second quarter from 1.1% in the previous three-month period, buoyed by gains in personal consumption expenditure, exports and private inventory investment. In addition, industrial production rose by 0.4%—the highest increase in six months—after remaining flat in July; however, the rise in retail sales slowed by a one-half to 0.2%. Developments in the housing market were mixed in August, as starts and completions rose marginally, by 0.9% and 0.3%, respectively, whereas building permits—a forward looking indicator—fell by 3.8%. In the external sector, a rise in imports, combined with a reduction in exports, resulted in a \$4.6 billion widening in the trade deficit, to \$39.1 billion in July. Conditions in the labour market were mildly positive in August, with the unemployment rate narrowing by 10 basis points to 7.3%, due to the addition of 169,000 non-farm payroll jobs. Further, annual consumer price inflation softened to 0.1% from 0.2% in July, owing mainly to lower natural gas, gasoline and electricity prices. Against this backdrop, the Federal Reserve maintained its "quantitative easing" measures and held its key interest rate within the 0.00%-0.25% range.

Within Europe, the United Kingdom's third quarter real output growth firmed to 0.7% from 0.3% in the previous three-month period; however, industrial production for August was relatively unchanged vis-à-vis growth of 1.3% in July. The monthly trade deficit deteriorated by £1.2 billion to £3.1 billion in July, as exports lessened by 4.6% to £41.1 billion, while imports firmed slightly by 0.5% to £44.2 billion. The jobless rate for the three months to July fell by 0.1 of a percentage point to 7.7%, while monthly inflation softened by a similar magnitude to 2.7% in August. Euro area developments featured a marginal 0.1% gain in retail sales in July, following a 0.7% decrease in the prior period; although industrial production declined by 1.5%, in contrast to a 0.6% increase a month earlier. In the external sector, the trade surplus advanced by 10.3% to €18.2 billion, as the 6.0% surge in exports to €166.8 billion, eclipsed the 5.5% rise in imports to €148.6 billion. Further, employment conditions stabilized, with the unemployment rate steadying at 12.1%, while annual inflation softened on a monthly basis by 30 basis points to 1.3% in August. In this environment of subdued growth and low inflation, both the Bank of England and the European Central Bank retained their neutral monetary policy stance.

Asian economies' growth momentum remained positive during the review month. In China, monthly retail sales grew by a relatively stable 1.2% in August, while the trade surplus advanced by 8.3%, year-on-year, to US\$28.5 billion, as an improvement in global demand supported an expansion in net exports. Inflationary pressures remained weak, with consumer prices firming by 0.5%, following a 0.1% increase a month earlier, led by a modest rise in food prices. The export-led Japanese economy sustained its recovery over the review period, as industrial output rose by 3.4% in July, vis-à-vis a 3.1% decline in the prior month, although retail sales fell by 0.3% year-on-year, after expanding previously by 1.6% in July. The unemployment rate moderated by 10 basis points to 3.8%, as the number of unemployed persons contracted by 330,000 relative to last year, and average consumer prices increased by a further 0.2% over the previous month. On the monetary front, the People's Bank of China kept its key policy rate unchanged, while the Bank of Japan decided to continue its quantitative easing measures, in an effort to achieve the price stability target of 2.0%.

Reflecting the modest uptick in global demand, combined with geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and a slight reduction in OPEC's production, crude oil prices rose by 8.0% in August to US\$115.83 per barrel. Similarly, precious metal prices moved upwards over the review month, with the cost of both gold and silver increasing by 5.3% to \$1,395.27 per troy ounce and by 18.5% to \$23.52 per troy ounce, respectively.

Most of the major stock markets registered broad-based monthly declines during August, partly stemming from concerns over the potential spill-over effects of the unfolding conflict in the Middle East. In the United States, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) and the S&P 500 indices fell by 4.5% and 2.9%, respectively. Similarly, in Europe, the United Kingdom's FTSE 100 moved lower by 3.1%, Germany's DAX, by 2.1% and France's CAC 40, by 1.5%. Asian equity markets showed mixed results, as Japan's Nikkei 225 index weakened by 2.0%; however, China's SE Composite grew by 5.3%.

In foreign currency markets, the US dollar appreciated against most of the major currencies during the review month, as investors increased their holdings of "safe haven" assets. The dollar strengthened by 2.5% against the Canadian dollar, to CND\$1.0537, by 0.6% versus the euro to €0.7563, and by 0.4% and by 0.3% vis-à-vis the Swiss Franc and the Japanese Yen to CHF0.9297 and ¥97.45, respectively. In contrast, the dollar depreciated relative to the British pound, by 1.9% to £0.6450, and fell marginally against the Chinese Yuan by 0.2% to CNY6.1195.

3. Domestic Monetary Trends August 2013 vs. 2012

Bank liquidity contracted during the month of August, partly due to the traditional increase in foreign currency demand in the latter half of the year. Banks' excess cash balances fell by \$85.7 million, extending the \$72.8 million decline last year; however, as their holdings of Treasury bills increased, the reduction in the broader excess liquid assets slowed to \$42.1 million from \$70.6 million a year earlier.

External reserves fell by \$58.3 million to \$741.6 million over the review period, in line with last year's \$57.2 million contraction. In the underlying foreign currency transactions, the Central Bank's net sale to commercial banks almost doubled to \$31.8 million from \$17.0 million in 2012, to support an \$8.1 million increase in their net sale to customers. However, some offset was provided by a reduction in the public sector's net demand for foreign currency—related mainly to fuel payments—to \$25.7 million from \$38.3 million a year earlier.

Accretions to Bahamian dollar credit were markedly lower at \$11.0 million, compared to \$77.5 million in 2012, attributed mainly to an equally sharp reduction in the growth of net claims on the Government, to \$42.3 million from \$81.3 million in the prior year, with credit to the rest of the public sector firming slightly by \$0.6 million, vis-à-vis a \$1.5 million decline in 2012. Amid subdued domestic demand conditions, the contraction in claims on the private sector accelerated by \$29.4 million to \$31.9 million, as the repayment of an outstanding bridging loan facility by a major port operator resulted in commercial and "other" loans declining by \$40.6 million, extending the year-earlier \$8.2 million falloff. However, mortgages firmed modestly by \$2.6 million, a turnaround from last year's slight \$0.4 million contraction, while gains in consumer credit steadied at \$6.2 million.

Provisional data showed that banks' credit quality indicators worsened during the month of August, as total private sector loan arrears increased by \$13.1 million (1.0%) to \$1,273.1 million, for a 29 basis points hike to 20.66% of total loans. Based on aging, arrears in the short-term, 31-90 days, segment advanced by \$11.4 million (2.9%) to an estimated \$407.0 million, boosting the corresponding ratio to total loans by 21 basis points to 6.61%. Similarly, the non-performing category—arrears in excess of 90 days and on which banks have ceased accruing interest—firmed marginally by \$1.7 million (0.2%) to \$866.1 million, which was a steady 14.1% of total loans.

The growth in total loan arrears was largely attributed to an \$11.8 million (1.8%) rise in mortgage delinquencies, to \$676.9 million, as both the short-term and non-accrual categories moved higher by \$9.2 million (5.5%) and \$2.6 million (0.5%), respectively. Further, the consumer segment rose slightly by \$1.2 million (0.5%) to \$251.0 million, reflecting a \$2.9 million (3.5%) expansion in short-term delinquencies, which was offset by a \$1.6 million (1.0%) contraction in the non-accrual component. Commercial arrears were relatively unchanged at \$345.2 million, as a \$0.7 million (0.4%) rise in non-accrual loans, negated an identical reduction in the short-term category.

In this environment, banks increased their loan loss provisions by \$2.7 million (0.7%) to \$416.8 million in August. However, with the rate of expansion in arrears outpacing the rise in provisions, the ratio of total provisions to arrears declined by 12 basis points, to 32.7%, although the corresponding non-performing loan ratio advanced by 22 basis points to 48.1%.

Total domestic foreign currency credit grew by \$28.1 million over the review month, exceeding the \$16.9 million expansion in the corresponding period a year earlier. Reflecting this development, accretions to private sector credit firmed by \$13.8 million to \$30.2 million, as a local telecommunications company increased its borrowings to facilitate the purchase of overseas entities. Further, net credit to the Government rose slightly by \$0.8 million, extending last year's \$0.5 million gain; whereas claims on public corporations fell by \$2.9 million, compared with a flat outturn in the prior year.

The contraction in total Bahamian dollar deposits accelerated to \$45.4 million from a mere \$1.0 million a year earlier, largely explained by a \$30.2 million decline in demand deposits, as entities increased their investments following a port operator's share offering, vis-à-vis 2012's \$39.5 million expansion. In addition, savings balances decreased by \$7.9 million, following a \$0.7 million falloff last year, while the reduction in fixed deposits slackened by \$32.4 million to \$7.4 million.

In interest rate developments, commercial banks' weighted average deposit rate softened by 32 basis points to 1.54%, with the highest rate of 4.00% offered on fixed balances of over 12 months. In contrast, the weighted average loan rate firmed by 48 basis points to 11.54%.

4. Outlook and Policy Implications

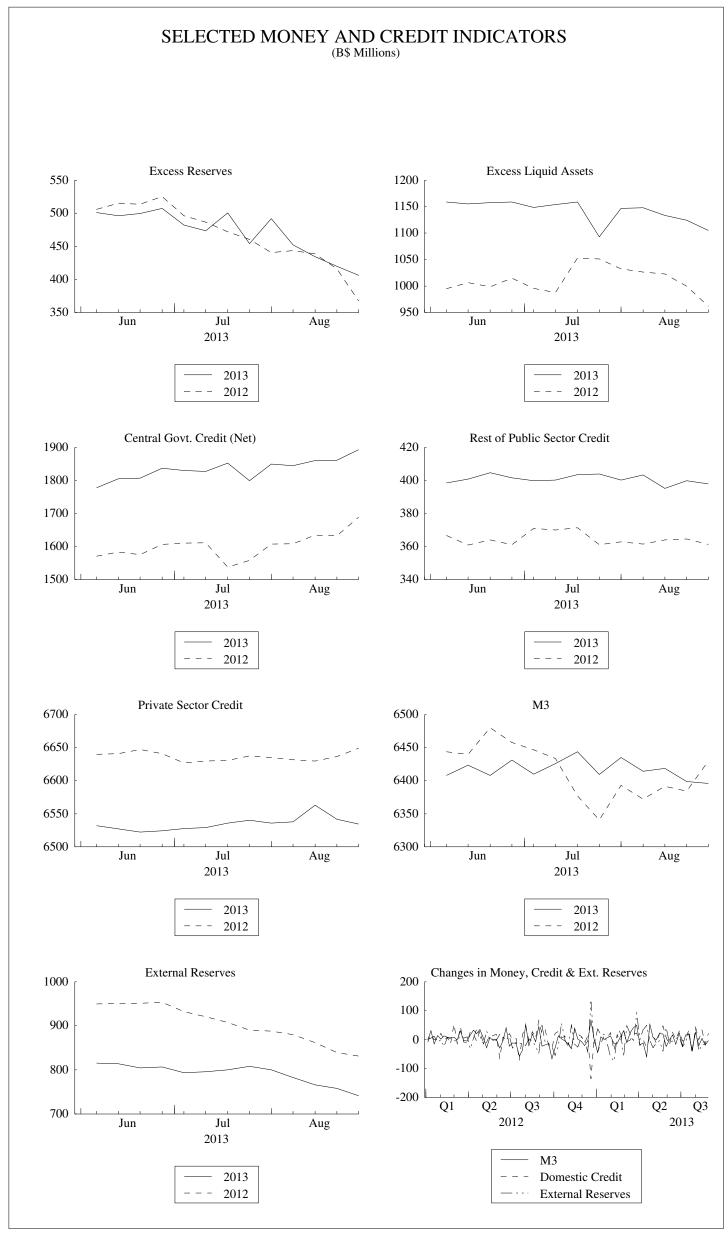
Expectations are that domestic economic conditions will remain relatively subdued over the remainder of the year, reflecting the persistent softness in tourism output, although foreign investment projects should continue to support construction activity in the near-term. As a consequence, employment conditions are anticipated to stay challenging, until the recovery in key sectors broadens and becomes more sustainable, while inflationary impulses should remain benign although domestic fuel costs are exposed to unfolding developments affecting global oil prices.

In the fiscal sector, the potential for a reduction in the overall deficit and associated debt indicators will continue to depend heavily on the extent of the recovery, as well as the success of Government's measures to increase revenues and curtail expenditure growth.

Near term monetary conditions are expected to be characterized by buoyant liquidity levels, owing to persistent weakness in private sector demand, while the real sector is not likely to provide any notable contributions to external reserves over the remainder of 2013. Given the outlook for employment and business conditions, banking sector loan arrears are poised to remain elevated for the short-term. Nevertheless, banks are expected to stay highly capitalized, negating any financial stability concerns.

Recent Monetary and Credit Statistics (B\$ Millions)

			AUG	UST		
	Val 2012		Cha 2012		Chang	
.0 LIQUIDITY & FOREIGN ASSETS	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	201
1.1 Excess Reserves	367.61	406.14	-72.75	-85.69	-67.25	-43.8
1.2 Excess Liquid Assets	961.54	1,104.80	-70.56	-42.13	64.38	133.3
1.3 External Reserves	831.08	741.60	-57.17	-58.31	-60.92	-70.5
1.4 Bank's Net Foreign Assets 1.5 Usable Reserves	-578.44 401.08	-545.64 290.59	29.45 -19.12	-10.98 -13.81	30.61 -37.62	76.1 -57.6
	+01.00	250.55	10.12	10.01	07.02	57.0
.0 DOMESTIC CREDIT 2.1 Private Sector	6,649.16	6,534.31	13.99	-1.67	34.80	-82.0
a. B\$ Credit	6,230.40	6,140.81	-2.41	-31.85	-29.74	-79.6
of which: Consumer Credit	2,123.23	2,104.53	6.20	6.15	-23.43	-16.3
Mortgages	3,105.08	3,114.94	-0.44	2.57	18.48	11.8
Commercial and Other Loans B\$	1,002.09	921.34	-8.17	-40.57	-24.79	-75.2
b. F/C Credit	418.76	393.50	16.40	30.19	64.54	-2.3
of which: Mortgages	144.32	154.71	12.93	3.48	15.18	9.9
Commercial and Other Loans F/C	274.44	238.79	3.47	26.71	49.36	-12.3
2.2 Central Government (net)	1,689.32	1,892.86	81.80	43.08	252.33	299.4
a. B\$ Loans & Securities	1,814.60	2,032.25	69.68	41.14	250.25	315.5
Less Deposits b. F/C Loans & Securities	124.71	138.68	-11.65	-1.11	-0.92	16.5
	0.00 0.57	0.00 0.71	0.00 -0.46	0.00	0.00 -1.16	-0.0 -0.5
Less Deposits 2.3 Rest of Public Sector	361.34	397.96	-0.46 -1.47	-0.83 -2.27	-1.16 -46.21	-0.8 -9. 0
a. B\$ Credit	105.41	121.23	-1.47	0.63	1.98	
b. F/C Credit	255.94	276.74	-0.01	-2.90	-48.19	-11.4
2.4 Total Domestic Credit	8,699.84	8,825.14	94.33	39.14	240.92	207.7
a. B\$ Domestic Credit	8,025.71	8,155.61	77.48	11.02	223.42	221.1
b. F/C Domestic Credit	674.13	669.53	16.85	28.12	17.50	-13.0
0 DEPOSIT BASE						
3.1 Demand Deposits	1,376.28	1,422.67	39.45	-30.16	140.97	64.7
a. Central Bank	20.49	14.89	9.93	2.43	12.27	<u>04.7</u> 2.8
b. Banks	1,355.79	1,407.78	29.52	-32.59	128.70	61.9
3.2 Savings Deposits	1,115.57	1,091.98	-0.67	-7.85	49.56	24.3
3.3 Fixed Deposits	3,485.30	3,394.57	-39.73	-7.36	-121.49	-27.6
3.4 Total B\$ Deposits	5,977.15	5,909.22	-0.95	-45.38	69.03	61.3
3.5 F/C Deposits of Residents	251.12	286.09	37.19	10.00	58.25	62.9
3.6 M2	6,178.72	6,109.73	-0.29	-49.24	72.31	56.7
3.7 External Reserves/M2 (%)	13.45	12.14	-0.92	-0.85	-1.16	-1.2
3.8 Reserves/Base Money (%)	100.51 96.64	86.16 82.22	1.70 1.75	1.80 1.50	-0.38 -1.75	-3.7
3.9 External Reserves/Demand Liabilites (%)	Val	ue	Year to	Date	Cha	
0 FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS	2012	2013	2012	2013	Month	YTI
4.1 Central Bank Net Purchase/(Sale)	-55.32	-57.50	-69.56	-78.75	-2.18	-9.1
a. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Banks	-17.01	-31.81	174.55	122.43	-14.79	-52.1
i. Sales to Banks	26.28	45.28	120.82	178.16	19.00	57.3
ii. Purchases from Banks	9.26	13.47	295.37	300.59	4.21	5.2
b. Net Purchase/(Sale) from/to Others				-201.18	12.61	42.9
	-38.30	-25.69	-244.11			40.0
i. Sales to Others	-38.30 57.39	-25.69 55.16	-244.11 464.46	416.14	-2.23	-48.3
i. Sales to Othersii. Purchases from Others					-2.23 10.38	
	57.39	55.16	464.46	416.14		-5.3
ii. Purchases from Others	57.39 19.09	55.16 29.47	464.46 220.35	416.14 214.96	10.38	-5.3 -43. 3
ii. Purchases from Others 4.2 Banks Net Purchase/(Sale) a. Sales to Customers b. Purchases from Customers	57.39 19.09 -14.61 283.97 269.37	55.16 29.47 -22.71 301.08 278.37	464.46 220.35 169.79	416.14 214.96 126.44	10.38 <i>-8.10</i>	-5.3 -43. 3 55.8
ii. Purchases from Others 4.2 Banks Net Purchase/(Sale) a. Sales to Customers b. Purchases from Customers 4.3 B\$ Position (change)	57.39 19.09 -14.61 283.97	55.16 29.47 <i>-22.71</i> 301.08	464.46 220.35 169.79 2,344.93	416.14 214.96 126.44 2,400.80	10.38 - 8.10 17.10	-5.3 -43. 3 55.8
ii. Purchases from Others 4.2 Banks Net Purchase/(Sale) a. Sales to Customers b. Purchases from Customers 4.3 B\$ Position (change) 0 EXCHANGE CONTROL SALES	57.39 19.09 -14.61 283.97 269.37 2.10	55.16 29.47 -22.71 301.08 278.37 -6.25	464.46 220.35 169.79 2,344.93 2,514.72	416.14 214.96 126.44 2,400.80 2,527.23	10.38 -8.10 17.10 9.00	-5.3 -43.3 55.8 12.5
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ii. Purchases from Others 4.2 Banks Net Purchase/(Sale) a. Sales to Customers b. Purchases from Customers 4.3 B\$ Position (change) 0 EXCHANGE CONTROL SALES 5.1 Current Items of which Public Sector a. Nonoil Imports	57.39 19.09 -14.61 283.97 269.37 2.10 322.00 2.49 127.06	55.16 29.47 -22.71 301.08 278.37 -6.25 ND ND	464.46 220.35 169.79 2,344.93 2,514.72 2,106.63 14.56 930.97	416.14 214.96 126.44 2,400.80 2,527.23 ND ND	10.38 -8.10 17.10 9.00 ND ND	-5.3 -43.3 55.8 12.5 NE
ii. Purchases from Others 4.2 Banks Net Purchase/(Sale) a. Sales to Customers b. Purchases from Customers 4.3 B\$ Position (change) 0 EXCHANGE CONTROL SALES 5.1 Current Items of which Public Sector a. Nonoil Imports b. Oil Imports	57.39 19.09 -14.61 283.97 269.37 2.10 322.00 2.49 127.06 41.51	55.16 29.47 -22.71 301.08 278.37 -6.25 ND ND ND ND	2,344.93 2,514.72 2,106.63 14.56 930.97 292.89	416.14 214.96 126.44 2,400.80 2,527.23 ND ND ND	10.38 -8.10 17.10 9.00 ND ND ND ND	-5.: -43.: 55.: 12.: NE NE NE
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Selected International Statistics

	Real	GDP	Inflatio	n Rate	Unemp	loyment
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
Bahamas	2.5	2.7	2.3	2.0	14.0	N/A
United States	2.2	1.9	2.1	1.8	8.1	7.7
Euro-Area	-0.6	-0.3	2.5	1.7	11.4	12.3
Germany	0.9	0.6	2.1	1.6	5.5	5.7
Japan	2.0	1.6	0.0	0.1	4.4	4.1
China	7.8	8.0	2.6	3.0	4.1	4.1
United Kingdom	0.2	0.7	2.8	2.7	8.0	7.8
Canada	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.5	7.3	7.3

	B: Official	Interest Rates –	Selected Cour	ntries (%)	
With effect	СВОВ	ECB (EU)	Federal Re	serve (US)	Bank of England
	Bank	Refinancing	Primary	Target	Repo Rate
from	Rate	Rate	Credit	Funds	
·	1		Rate	Rate	
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
February 2013	4.50	0.75	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
March 2013	4.50	0.75	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
April 2013	4.50	0.75	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
May 2013	4.50	0.50	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
June 2013	4.50	0.50	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
July 2013	4.50	0.50	0.75	0-0.25	0.50
August 2013	4.50	0.50	0.75	0-0.25	0.50

Selected International Statistics

			Selected Cur Inited States			
Currency	Aug-12	Jul-13	Aug-13	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change	12-Mth% Change
Euro	0.7950	0.7518	0.7563	0.61	-0.23	-4.86
Yen	78.39	97.88	98.18	0.31	13.18	25.25
Pound	0.6303	0.6575	0.6450	-1.91	4.80	2.33
Canadian \$	0.9863	1.0277	1.0537	2.53	6.20	6.83
Swiss Franc	0.9549	0.9262	0.9297	0.38	1.54	-2.64
Renminbi	6.3497	6.1289	6.1195	-0.15	-1.80	-3.63
Source: Bloom	aberg as of	August 30, 2	2013			

	D. Sel	ected Commodi	ty Prices (\$)		
Commodity	August 2012	July 2013	August 2013	Mthly % Change	YTD % Change
Gold / Ounce	1691.85	1325.25	1395.27	5.28	-16.72
Silver / Ounce	31.74	19.85	23.52	18.49	-22.48
Oil / Barrel	113.11	107.25	115.83	8.00	4.71

			S&P				Nikkei	
	BISX	DJIA	500	FTSE 100	CAC 40	DAX	225	SE
1 month	1.50	-4.45	-2.93	-3.14	-1.48	-2.09	-2.04	5.25
3 month	-2.55	-2.02	0.49	-2.58	-0.38	-2.94	-2.80	-8.79
YTD	3.42	13.02	14.38	8.73	8.04	6.45	28.80	-7.52
12-month	7.31	13.14	15.98	12.28	15.26	16.24	51.46	2.48

	USD	GBP	EUR
o/n	0.10	0.43	0.00
1 Month	0.14	0.41	0.11
3 Month	0.23	0.44	0.05
6 Month	0.37	0.51	0.13
9 Month	0.50	0.64	0.24
1 year	0.56	0.76	0.36

SUMMARY ACCOUNTS OF THE CENTRAL BANK

(B\$ Millions)

				VA	VALUE								СНА	CHANGE				
	Jul. 03	Jul. 10	Jul. 17	Jul. 24	Jul. 31	Aug. 07	Aug. 14	Aug. 21	Aug. 28	Jul. 03	Jul. 10	Jul. 17	Jul. 24	Jul. 31	Aug. 07	Aug. 14	Aug. 21	Aug. 28
I. External Resrves	793.32	796.05	800.44	807.91	799.92	782.95	766.14	758.18	741.60	-13.59	2.73	4.38	7.48	-7.99	-16.97	-16.80	7.97	-16.57
II. Net Domestic Assets $(A + B + C + D)$	-58.79	00.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
A. Net Credit to $Gov^{2}t(i+ii+iii-iv)$	452.25	432.86	452.05	398.14	455.30	424.09	422.97	422.98	428.05	-9.36	-19.40	19.19	-53.90	57.16	-31.21	-1.12	0.01	5.07
i) Advances	105.66	105.66	105.66	105.66	105.66	105.66	105.66	105.66	105.66	0.00	0.00	00.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ii) Registered Stock	169.45	169.53	169.58	169.58	178.07	177.78	177.80	177.80	177.86	-0.37	0.08	0.04	0.00	8.49	-0.29	0.02	0.00	90.0
iii) Treasury Bills	200.51	200.51	200.51	200.51	200.51	165.08	165.08	165.08	170.06	-9.00	0.00	0.00	-0.00	0.00	-35.43	0.00	0.00	4.98
iv) Deposits	23.37	42.84	23.70	77.61	28.93	24.42	25.57	25.56	25.53	-0.01	19.48	-19.14	53.91	-48.67	-4.51	1.14	-0.01	-0.03
B. Rest of Public Sector (Net) (i + ii - iii)	-13.83	-7.76	-4.23	-13.18	16.7-	-1.94	-4.46	-16.76	-10.34	-5.34	6.07	3.53	-8.95	5.26	5.98	-2.52	-12.30	6.42
i) BDB Loans	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	0.00	00.00	00.00	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	18.38	12.31	8.78	17.73	12.46	6.49	9.01	21.31	14.89	5.34	-6.07	-3.53	8.95	-5.26	-5.98	2.52	12.30	-6.42
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)*	-497.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
III. Monetary Base	734.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-14.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
A. Currency in Circulation	125.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
B. Bank Balances with CBOB	608.58	610.80	629.39	586.87	633.80	586.58	560.82	557.06	550.10	-37.90	2.22	18.59	-42.52	46.93	-47.22	-25.76	-3.75	-6.96

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

FISCAL/REAL SECTOR INDICATORS (88 MILLIONS) (% change represents current month from previous month)

Contraction			ł	1			1	ł	ł		1	1						ł	1	l		2012/2013	7107/1107	2012/202
1	Government Revenue & Grants % change; over previous month ImportExcise Dutes % change; over previous month																					1	(Over prev	ious year)
1,10, 1,10	Import/Excise Duties %change; over previous month		12.4																				107. 18.979	3 111.
13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13		-15.	44.0																				21.899	
1	. Recurrent Expenditure %change; over previous month	4	21.9																				117.	
1	Capital Expenditure %change; over previous month	-90.	4.5 95%																				13.	
Section Sect	Deficit/Surptus* %cchange; over previous month	ġ,	15.0																				-24.	£-,
35846 4,2846 3,8160 4,4086 8,1840 4,4081 4,2871 4,		NAL	2012				APR	\mathbb{H}	MAY	+	NOI.						2013	0CT	\mathbb{H}	NOV	\mathbb{H}			
1906 1902 1904 1905					ŝć.	4,527.3		- %	4,	e,	9,4		4,7	4,	4,723.3									
100 100	Exiernal Debt %change; over previous month					1,049.9		1,048.7	1,0					ω	1,051.8									
100 100	Internal F/C Debt %change; over previous month					0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						0.0									
1,460 1,60 1,00 1,1 1,13					3,6	3,477.3			e,															
1,4502 1,844,8 1,446,7 1,871,4 1,473,8 1,875,4 1,483,7 1,834				Ÿ		21.7 117.3%	13.2 1126.0%		ď		8-				0.0									
1042 1045	1.Total Public Sector F/C Debt %change; over previous month					1,875.4	1,483.7																	
2012 3013 3014 3013 <th< td=""><td></td><td>JAN</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>MAY</td><td>H</td><td>NO</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>OCT</td><td>\vdash</td><td>NOV</td><td>\vdash</td><td></td><td>2012</td><td>2013</td></th<>		JAN							MAY	H	NO							OCT	\vdash	NOV	\vdash		2012	2013
528.7 538.1 529.1 538.2 63.2.4 674.0 549.7 554.4 415.0 447.6 421.8 477.2 377.6 437.8 477.2 377.6 477.2 377.6 477.2 377.6 477.2 377.7 378.6 377.6 477.2 378.6 477.2 378.6 477.2 378.6 477.2 378.6 477.2 378.6 377.6 378.6 377.6 378.6 <t< td=""><td>teal Sector Indicators 2. Retail Price Index %change; over previous month</td><td>4.7</td><td>96.8</td><td>``</td><td>2012 105.8 0.78%</td><td>2013 106.3 -0.39%</td><td>2012 106.1 0.31%</td><td>6.6</td><td>20 4%</td><td>20 1%</td><td>6.4</td><td>Ä</td><td>8</td><td></td><td>2013</td><td>2012</td><td>2013</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2013</td><td>(Over prev 105.8 2.37%</td><td>ious year) 106</td></t<>	teal Sector Indicators 2. Retail Price Index %change; over previous month	4.7	96.8	``	2012 105.8 0.78%	2013 106.3 -0.39%	2012 106.1 0.31%	6.6	20 4%	20 1%	6.4	Ä	8		2013	2012	2013					2013	(Over prev 105.8 2.37%	ious year) 106
89.4 86.1 110.9 104.8 156.3 153.6 139.0 117.4 109.4 113.9 124.8 131.2	3. Tourist amvals (000's) % change; over previous year					674.0	549.7 -18.45%					2, %											3,07.	
18.97 22.56 30.78 2.5% 18.97 25.20% 3.2% 3	4. Air arrivals (000's) %change; over previous year		.,			153.6 -1.69%	139.0	117.4				2 %											730	
18.97 22.56 30.76 20.71 18.97 - 2.25% - 8.2% - 8.2% - 8.2%	5. Occupied Room Nights %change; over previous year		\parallel					+	H	H														
	i. Res. Mortgage Commitments-Value of New Const. & Rehab. (B\$Millions) %-change; over previous arr.				18.97	22.56				36		7.4											18.97	