

ASSOCIATION OF BANKS IN LEBANON

Research & Statistics Department



The Economic Letter

September 2016

Summary:

In the first three quarters of 2016, real sector indicators were mixed in respect of the same preceding year's period. Imports of goods advanced while exports of goods slightly shrank contributing to a larger trade deficit. Yet, the overall balance of payments reported a surplus and official foreign currency reserves attained a new elevated level to secure financial stability. Banks activity accelerated and the gross public debt grew relatively faster.

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I- REAL SECTOR

In September 2016,

The total value of checks cleared in the domestic and foreign currencies decreased to USD 5,776 million from USD 5,821 million in the previous month (USD 5,738 million in September 2015). Cleared checks o/w 71.3 percent denominated in foreign currencies retreated in the first nine months of 2016 by 2.3 percent when compared to the identical period of 2015.

The total value of returned checks in the domestic and foreign currencies diminished to USD 111 million compared to USD 118 million one month back and USD 117 million in September 2015. Returned checks dropped in the first nine months of 2016 by 5.3 percent with reference to the first nine months of the past year.

Collected real estate fees slightly improved to LBP 72.2 billion against LBP 71.0 billion in the preceding month and LBP 65.7 billion twelve months back. Collected fees augmented in the three quarters of 2016 by 3.8 percent with regard to the corresponding 2015 time frame.

Construction permits regressed to 930 thousand square meters compared to 981 thousand square meters in the previous month and 1,090 thousand square meters in September 2015. Construction permits shrank in the first nine months of 2016 by 4.4 percent in respect of the same preceding year's period.

Cement deliveries declined to 479 thousand tons from 517 thousand tons a month earlier (463 thousand tons in September 2015). Cement deliveries increased, however, by 7.1 percent in the three first quarters 2016 in comparison with the similar time interval of 2015.

The total number of passengers arriving to and departing from Beirut International Airport fell to 372,040 and 447,562 respectively to total 819,602 persons. In the first nine months of 2016, arrivals and departures surpassed, however, by 8.3 percent and 5.0 percent consecutively those recorded in the corresponding previous year's duration.

Agricultural exports stood almost unchanged at USD 20 million but were in the first nine months of 2016 below those reported in the matching months of 2015 by USD 9 million (-6.0 percent).

In August 2016,

Industrial exports (excluding gold ingots) climbed to USD 233 million from USD 179 million in the previous month (USD 233 million in August 2015). Industrial exports contracted, however, in the first eight months of 2016 by 14.7 percent with regard to the first eight months of 2015.

Imports of Industrial Equipment rose to USD 19.0 million from USD 16.8 million one month earlier (USD 21.3 million in August 2015). Nonetheless, in the first eight months of 2016, industrial equipment imports declined by 4.9 percent in comparison with the alike 2015 time phase.

| Real Sector | | | San 16 |
|--|----------|--------------|---------|
| | Sep-15 | Aug-16 | Sep-16 |
| Checks cleared (total) | | | |
| Number (000) | 1,025 | 1,065 | 1,033 |
| Value (USD million) | 5,738 | 5,821 | 5,776 |
| Checks cleared in LBP | | | |
| Number (000) | 341 | 372 | 364 |
| Value (LBP billion) | 2,392 | 2,436 | 2,596 |
| Checks cleared in FX | | | |
| Number (000) | 684 | 693 | 669 |
| Value (USD million) | 4,151 | 4,205 | 4,054 |
| Returned checks | | | |
| Number (000) | 18.8 | 18.6 | 18.7 |
| Value (USD million) | 117 | 118 | 111 |
| Construction permits (000 square | 1,090 | 981 | 930 |
| meters) | 1.52 | 462 517 | |
| Cement deliveries (000 tons) | 463 | 517 | 479 |
| Collected property taxes (LBP billion) | 65.7 | 71.0 | 72.2 |
| Passengers arrivals (000) | 331 | 405 | 372 |
| Passengers departures (000) | 413 | 512 | 448 |
| Agricultural exports (USD million) | 20 | 20 | 20 |
| Industrial exports (USD million) | 243 | 233 | n.a. |
| Imports of industrial machinery (USD million) | 13.8 | 19.0 | n.a. |
| Source: BDL. OEA .BIA. CLR. | ministrv | of Industry. | Lebanes |

Source: BDL, OEA ,BIA, CLR, ministry of Industry, Lebanese Custom

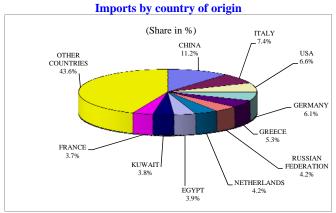


II- EXTERNAL SECTOR

In September 2016,

Imports of goods recoiled to USD 1,448 million from USD 1,951 million in the previous month (USD 1,434 million in September 2015). Yet, imports advanced in the first nine months of 2016 by 7.7 percent with reference to the first nine months of the previous year.

In the first three quarters of 2016, mineral products lead imported goods with a 21.7 percent share of total imports. They were followed by products of the chemical and machinery and mechanical appliances which accounted for 10.8 percent and 9.8 percent respectively. China topped the list of imports by country of origin with a 11.2 percent share of total. Italy came next with a share of 7.4 percent followed by USA (6.6 percent) and Germany (6.1 percent).



Source: Lebanese Customs

Exports of goods decreased to USD 254 million from USD 340 million in the previous month (USD 243 million in September 2015). Exports slightly fell back in the first nine months of 2016 by 0.2 percent in respect of the same nine months of the preceding year's period.

In the first three quarters of 2016, pearls, precious and semi - precious stones were on top of the list with a share of 29.3 percent of total exports, followed by prepared foodstuffs (14.6 percent), and machinery and mechanical appliances (11.1 percent). South Africa outperformed all others in terms of exports by country of destination with 23.2 percent share of the total, trailed by Saudi Arabia (9.3 percent), UAE (8.2 percent) and Syria (5.7 percent).





Source: Lebanese Customs

The trade deficit narrowed to USD 1,194 million from USD 1,611 million a month earlier (USD 1,191 million in September 2015). Yet, the trade deficit widened in the first nine months of 2016 by 9.3 percent vis-à-vis the corresponding time interval of 2015.

| External Sector Indicators | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--|--|--|
| USD million | Sep-15 | Aug-16 | Sep-16 | | | |
| Imports | 1,434 | 1,951 | 1,448 | | | |
| Exports | 243 | 340 | 254 | | | |
| Trade deficit | -1,191 | -1,611 | -1,194 | | | |
| Balance of payments | -122 | 1,788 | 189 | | | |
| Gross foreign currency reserves | 32,024 | 35,667 | 34,170 | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Source: Lebanese Customs, BDL.

The overall balance of payments reported a surplus of USD 189 million following a large surplus of USD 1,788 million in the previous month (USD 122 million deficit in September 2015). Thus, a USD 555 million positive balance accumulated in the first nine months of 2016 and represented an increase in net foreign assets of the central bank (USD +3,943 million) against a drop in net foreign assets of banks and financial institutions (USD -3,388 million).

Gross foreign currency reserves of the Central bank retreated to USD 34,170 million compared to USD 35,667 million at the end of the previous month (USD 32,024 million at end September 2015). The U.S. dollar average rate remained stable at LBP 1,507.5 with the Central bank maintaining its foreign exchange intervention rates at LBP 1,501 per one USD for bid and LBP 1,514 per one USD for ask.

III-FINANCIAL SECTOR

1. Commercial Banks

Total consolidated assets of commercial banks operating in Lebanon amounted to LBP 298,592 billion (USD 198.1 billion) at the end of September 2016, thus increasing by 6.5 percent from end December 2015 (3.2 percent increase in the first nine months of 2015).

Total deposits at commercial banks, including resident and non-resident private sector deposits and public sector deposits increased by 4.3 percent in the first nine months of 2016 and constituted 81.6 percent of total assets with an equivalent value of LBP 243,656 billion (around USD 161.6 billion) at the end of September 2016.

| Commercial Banks Balance Sheet -Main items | | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|--|--|
| End of period-LBP billion | Sep-15 | Aug-16 | Sep-16 | | |
| Total Assets | 273,373 | 295,129 | 298,592 | | |
| Total deposits | 229,674 | 241,828 | 243,656 | | |
| Resident private sector | 178,451 | 187,198 | 188,621 | | |
| Non-resident private sector | 46,338 | 49,619 | 49,784 | | |
| Public sector deposits | 4,886 | 5,011 | 5,250 | | |
| Capital accounts | 24,553 | 26,272 | 26,332 | | |
| Total claims on the private sector | 79,309 | 84,985 | 85,405 | | |
| Resident private sector | 70,584 | 75,307 | 75,666 | | |
| Non-resident private sector | 8,725 | 9,678 | 9,739 | | |
| Total claims on public sector | 56,326 | 52,344 | 53,247 | | |
| Bills & Bonds in LBP | 30,753 | 25,882 | 27,298 | | |
| Bonds in FC | 25,434 | 26,299 | 25,756 | | |
| Claims on non resident banks | 15,554 | 12,790 | 13,718 | | |
| Other foreign assets | 9,362 | 9,426 | 9,141 | | |
| Deposits at the central bank | 104,325 | 126,419 | 128,165 | | |
| Source: BDL. | | | | | |

The breakdown of total deposits shows that private sector deposits denominated in LBP increased by 4.0 percent from end December 2015 and those denominated in foreign currencies by 4.5 percent, thus deposit dollarization rate stood almost unchanged at 65.0 percent at the end of September 2016 (64.9 percent end December 2015). The itemization of total deposits reveals also an increase in resident private sector deposits (+4.5), in non-resident private sector deposits (+3.7 percent) and in public sector deposits (+3.5 percent) in the first nine months of 2016.



Subsequently, resident private sector deposits accounted for 77.4 percent of total deposits at end September 2016 (20.4 percent for non-resident private sector and 2.2 percent for public sector deposits).

Total capital accounts increased to LBP 26,332 billion (USD 17,467 million) at the end of September 2016 and represented around 8.8 percent of total assets. Capital accounts increased by 4.8 percent when compared to end December 2015 (+3.5 percent in the first nine months of 2015).

Total claims on the resident and non-resident private sector expanded by 4.5 percent in the first nine months of 2016, reaching LBP 85,405 billion at the end of September. The dollarization rate of these loans was 73.6 percent at the end of the stated month, and the ratio of total loans to total deposits attained 35.8 percent.

Total claims on the public sector amounted to LBP 53,247 billion at the end of September 2016, thus decreasing by 6.6 percent from end December 2015. Commercial banks held at the end of the stated month LBP 27,298 billion of Lebanese treasury bills (39.8 percent of the total portfolio in circulation) and USD 17,085 million of Eurobonds (nearly 63.5 percent of the total outstanding portfolio).

Deposits at the Central Bank rose in the first nine months of 2016 by 20.5 percent to total LBP 128,165 billion at the end of the period, while claims on nonresident banks recoiled by 21.3 percent to LBP 13,718 billion (USD 9.1 billion) to represent 8.9 percent of private sector deposits in foreign currencies.

2. Investment Banks

Total consolidated assets of investment banks operating in Lebanon (including medium and long term credit banks) amounted to LBP 6,860 billion (around USD 4.6 billion) at the end of September 2016, remaining almost unchanged when compared to end December 2015 (5.7 percent increase in the first nine months of 2015).

In the first nine months of 2016, capital accounts increased by 8.4 percent while private sector deposits (resident & non -resident) retreated by 5.1 percent. Claims on public sector increased by 23.7 percent and claims on private sector by 1.0 percent, while "cash and banks" decreased by 6.8 percent.

3. Financial Markets

The total number of shares traded on the Beirut Stock Exchange jumped to 17,494 thousand shares with a traded value of USD 132.5 million in September 2016 compared to 8,673 thousand shares with a traded value of USD 87.0 million in the previous month and 10.045 thousand shares with a value of USD 96.1 million in September 2015).

During September 2016, the traded value by economic sectors was as such: 97.4 percent for Banking, 2.4 percent for Development and Reconstruction and 0.1 percent for each of Industrial and Trading.

| Capital Markets | | | | | |
|--|--------|---------------|--------|--|--|
| | Sep-15 | Aug-16 | Sep-16 | | |
| BSE | | | | | |
| Traded shares (000) | 10,045 | 8,673 | 17,494 | | |
| Traded value (USD million) | 96.1 | 96.1 87.0 | | | |
| Market capitalization | 11,023 | 11,023 10,982 | | | |
| (USD million) | | | | | |
| Outstanding treasury bills (LBP billion) | 63,021 | 66,535 | 67,627 | | |
| Outstanding sovereign Eurobonds (USD million) | 23,501 | 26,429 | 26,395 | | |
| Outstanding private sector (banks) securities (USD million) | 850 | 850 | 850 | | |
| Source: BDL, BSE | | | | | |

The market capitalization of listed shares increased to USD 11,114 million at the end of September 2016, compared to USD 10,982 million at the end of the previous month and USD 11,023 million at the end of September 2015. Banking had a 83.0 percent weight, whereas Development and Construction 13.9 percent.

The face value of the outstanding treasury bills portfolio denominated in the domestic currency and the value of the outstanding sovereign bonds portfolio denominated in foreign currencies (Eurobonds) amounted to LBP 67,627 billion and USD 26,395 million respectively at the end of September 2016.

The outstanding value of bank-issued certificates of deposits, Euro-CDs, and subordinated debt stood almost unchanged at USD 850 million at the end of September 2016. The outstanding value of the certificates of deposits issued by BDL in the domestic currency remained unchanged at LBP 37,370 billion while the value of those issued in foreign currencies significantly increased to USD 17.8 billion.

IV- MONETARY DEVELOPMENTS

The stock of money and quasi money (M3) attained LBP 194,642 billion at the end of September 2016, of which 58.0 percent denominated in foreign currencies, thus increased by 4.4 percent from end December 2015 (3.7 percent increase in the first nine months of 2015).

| Money Supply & Counterparts | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--|--|
| LBP billion | Sep-15 | Aug-16 | Sep-16 | | |
| M3 | 184,035 | 193,180 | 194,642 | | |
| Net foreign assets | 49,806 | 50,695 | 51,169 | | |
| Net claims on public sector | 68,341 | 75,343 | 75,168 | | |
| Valuation Adjustment | -7,022 | -9,982 | -10,173 | | |
| Claims on private sector | 73,547 | 78,629 | 78,986 | | |
| Other items-net | -638 | -1,506 | -509 | | |
| CAS CPI (Dec 2013=100) | 96.07 | 95.61 | 97.06 | | |
| Source: BDL CAS | | | | | |

Source: BDL,CAS.

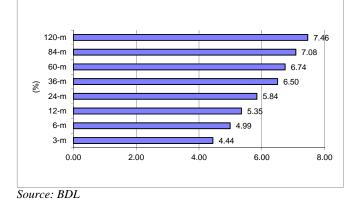
The LBP 8.281 billion increase in M3 in the first three quarters of 2016 resulted from an increase in each of net foreign assets (+LBP 4,561 billion), net claims on public sector (+LBP 4,480 billion) and claims on the private sector (+LBP 3,291 billion) against a decrease in valuation adjustment (-LBP 3,772 billion) and in net other items (-LBP 280 billion).

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Beirut and Suburbs, published by the Consultation and Research Institute, increased by 1.27 percent in September 2016 compared to the previous month and by 2.02 percent from December 2015.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Lebanon, published by the Central Administration of Statistics, increased by 1.52 percent in the month of September 2016 and by 1.19 percent from December 2015.

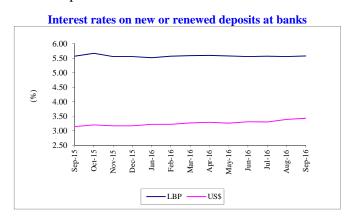
The interest rates on LBP monetary instruments were stable at the end of September 2016 on 45 and 60day certificates of deposits issued by BDL reading 3.57 percent and 3.85 percent respectively. The yields on the issued Lebanese Treasury bills also remained steady and read at the end of the stated month: 4.44 percent for three-month bills, 4.99 percent for sixmonth bills, 5.35 percent for one-year bills, 5.84 percent for two-year bills, 6.50 percent for three-year bills, 6.74 percent for five-year bills, 7.08 percent for seven-year bills and 7.46 percent for ten-year bills.





Yield on Lebanese treasury bills denominated in LBP (Last issue of September 2016)

In September 2016, the average interest rate on new or renewed LBP and USD deposits at commercial banks increased a little to 5.58 percent (5.56 percent a month ago) and 3.43 percent (3.39 percent in August 2016) respectively. The average 3-month USD LIBOR was 0.85 percent.



In September 2016, the average interest rate on new or renewed loans at commercial banks denominated in LBP increased to 8.44 percent (8.29 percent a month ago) while the average interest rate on new or renewed loans denominated in USD decreased to 7.20 percent (7.28 percent in August 2016).

V- PUBLIC FINANCES

Government revenues, including budget revenues and treasury receipts attained LBP 1,195 billion in June 2016 to sum LBP 8,045 billion in the first six months of 2016 (LBP 7,546 billion in the first half 2015). The LBP 8,045 billion revenues comprised LBP 7,510 billion budget revenues and LBP 535 billion treasury receipts.

Government expenditures, consisting of budget and treasury spending, amounted to LBP 1,592 billion in June 2016 to total LBP 10,964 billion in the first six months of 2016 (LBP 10,237 billion in the first half 2015). The LBP 10,964 billion expenditures included LBP 3,666 billion debt service and LBP 7,298 billion other general expenditures o/w LBP 504 billion to EDL and LBP 1,332 billion related to budget expenditures for previous years.

| Fiscal Situation | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------|-------|--|--|--|
| LBP billion | billion Jun-15 May-16 Jun- | | | | | |
| Government revenues | 1,464 | 1,838 | 1,195 | | | |
| Tax revenues | 1,146 | 1,497 | 675 | | | |
| Non-tax revenues | 267 | 285 | 382 | | | |
| Treasury receipts | 50 | 56 | 138 | | | |
| Government expenditures | 1,561 | 1,898 | 1,592 | | | |
| Debt service | 534 | 879 | 553 | | | |
| Others | 1,027 | 1,019 | 1,039 | | | |
| Overall balance | -97 | -60 | -397 | | | |
| Primary balance | 436 | 818 | 156 | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Source: Ministry of Finance.

Total Deficit increased as such to LBP 2,919 billion in the first six months of 2016 from LBP 2,690 billion in the first six months of 2015, while the primary balance surplus increased to LBP 747 billion compared to LBP 716 billion respectively.

Gross public debt amounted to LBP 112,649 billion (the equivalent of USD 74.7 billion) at the end of September 2016, thus increasing by 6.3 percent when compared to end December 2015 (3.2 percent growth in the first nine months of 2015).

Net public debt, which subtracts public sector deposits at commercial banks and the central bank from gross public debt, amounted to LBP 96,888 billion at the end of September 2016, thus rising by 4.4 percent from end December 2015 (5.4 percent growth in the first nine months of 2015).



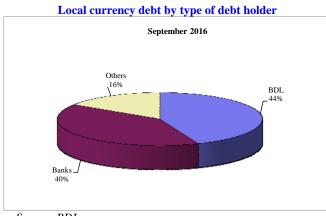
| LBP billion | Sep-15 | Aug-16 | Sep-16 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Public Debt (Gross) | 103,608 | 111,627 | 112,649 |
| Debt in LBP | 64,138 | 67,771 | 68,792 |
| Debt in FC | 39,470 | 43,856 | 43,857 |
| Public Debt (Net) | 91,070 | 96,624 | 96,888 |
| Public sector deposits | 12,538 | 15,003 | 15,761 |
| Commercial Banks | 4,886 | 5,011 | 5,250 |
| BDL | 7,652 | 9,992 | 10,511 |

Public Debt

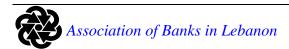
Source: BDL.

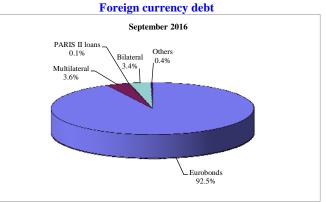
The shares of the local currency debt and foreign currency debt of the total gross were around 61.1 percent and 38.9 percent respectively at the end of September 2016. The distribution of local currency debt by type of holder was as follows: 40.3 percent for banks (38.6 percent end of August 2016), 43.9 percent for the Central bank (44.9 percent in the previous month) and 15.8 percent for the non-banking sector (16.5 percent one month earlier). The breakdown of the foreign currency debt was as such: Eurobonds (92.5 percent), Multilateral (3.6 percent), Bilateral (3.4 percent), Paris II loans (0.1 percent) and others (0.4 percent).

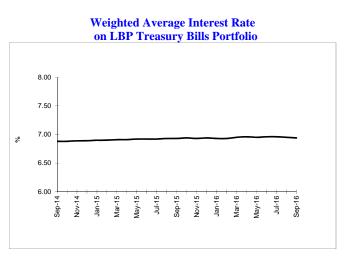
The average maturity of the Government debt securities denominated in the domestic currency was estimated at 1,281 days (3.51 years) as at end September 2016 with a weighted interest of 6.94 percent, and the average maturity of the Government debt instruments denominated in foreign currencies was around 6.28 years with a weighted interest of 6.42 percent.

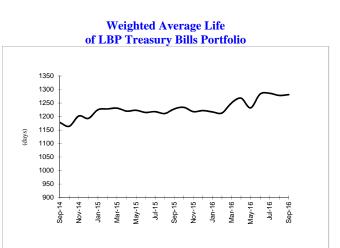


Source: BDL.









| | 2015 | Jan - Sep 2015 | Jan - Sep 2016 | Sep-15 | Aug-16 | Sep-16 |
|--|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Imports of Industrial Equipment (000's US\$) | 243,446 | 189,322 | n.a. | 13,847 | 19,033 | n.a |
| Building Permits (000's m2) | 12,339 | 9,362 | 8,955 | 1,090 | 981 | 930 |
| Cement Delivery (000s' tons) | 5,043 | 3,619 | 3,875 | 463 | 517 | 479 |
| Checks Cleared in LBP (billion LBP) | 28,211 | 20,800 | 21,931 | 2,392 | 2,436 | 2,596 |
| Checks Cleared in FC (million US\$) | 50,845 | 38,041 | 36,096 | 4,151 | 4,205 | 4,054 |
| Shipped Goods (tons)-Beirut Port | 1,082,466 | 794,840 | 752,863 | 114,398 | 110,626 | 95,988 |
| Unloaded Goods (tons)-Beirut Port | 7,134,250 | 5,301,513 | 5,847,480 | 573,530 | 651,828 | 572,094 |
| Passengers Arrivals (000's)-BIA | 3,517 | 2,710 | 2,935 | 331 | 405 | 372 |
| Passengers Departures (000's)-BIA | 3,688 | 2,818 | 2,960 | 413 | 512 | 448 |
| Total exports of goods (million USD) | 2,952 | 2,234 | 2,228 | 243 | 340 | 254 |
| Total imports of goods (million USD) | 18,069 | 13,221 | 14,240 | 1,434 | 1,951 | 1,448 |
| Balance of Trade (million USD) | -15,117 | -10,987 | -12,012 | -1,191 | -1,611 | -1,194 |
| Changes of Net Foreign Assets in the banking system (million USD) | -3,354 | -1,771 | 555 | -122 | 1,788 | 189 |
| Gross Foreign Currency Reserves (End of period-million USD) | 30,638 | - | - | 32,024 | 35,667 | 34,170 |
| Consumer Price Index (End of period) | 95.92 | - | - | 96.07 | 95.61 | 97.06 |

GENERAL INDICATORS OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

Sources: BDL, Lebanese Customs, Central Administration of Statistics, Order of engineers, Beirut International Airport, Port of Beirut, Ministry of Industry.



| | Imports | | | | Exp | orts |
|--|---------|-----------|-----------|-------|-----------|-----------|
| Goods | | Jan - Sep | Jan - Sep | | Jan - Sep | Jan - Sep |
| | 2015 | 2015 | 2016 | 2015 | 2015 | 2016 |
| 1- Live animals, animal products | 908 | 651 | 615 | 32 | 21 | 11 |
| 2- Vegetable products | 910 | 679 | 631 | 184 | 128 | 128 |
| 3- Fats & edible fats & oils | 164 | 123 | 124 | 34 | 25 | 29 |
| 4- Prepared foodstuffs | 1,359 | 1,004 | 1,025 | 483 | 363 | 326 |
| 5- Mineral products | 3,439 | 2,269 | 3,097 | 31 | 25 | 14 |
| 6- Products of the chemical | 1,945 | 1,450 | 1,532 | 411 | 322 | 233 |
| 7- Plastics & articles thereof | 758 | 556 | 555 | 129 | 96 | 99 |
| 8- Raw hides & skins, leather, furskins | 81 | 61 | 56 | 16 | 12 | 9 |
| 9- Wood & articles of wood | 238 | 174 | 171 | 13 | 10 | 10 |
| 10- Paper & paperboard & articles thereof | 319 | 248 | 256 | 158 | 119 | 97 |
| 11- Textiles & textile articles | 819 | 615 | 596 | 106 | 80 | 62 |
| 12- Footwear, headgear, prepared feathers | 160 | 124 | 119 | 17 | 13 | 9 |
| 13- Articles of stone, plaster, cement | 427 | 322 | 351 | 27 | 21 | 17 |
| 14- Pearls, precious or semi-precious stones | 822 | 622 | 916 | 434 | 332 | 653 |
| 15- Base metals & articles of base metal | 1,159 | 901 | 892 | 314 | 239 | 178 |
| 16- Machinery & mechanical appliances | 1,993 | 1,525 | 1,392 | 414 | 312 | 248 |
| 17-Transport equipment | 1,758 | 1,301 | 1,307 | 23 | 19 | 12 |
| 18- Optical instruments & apparatus | 331 | 243 | 244 | 17 | 12 | 15 |
| 19- Arms & ammunition | 24 | 15 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 20- Miscellaneous manufactured articles | 430 | 315 | 336 | 104 | 80 | 72 |
| 21- Works of art | 28 | 23 | 15 | 7 | 6 | 6 |
| Total | 18,069 | 13,221 | 14,240 | 2,952 | 2,234 | 2,228 |

TOTAL IMPORTS & EXPORTS BY PRODUCT (Million US Dollars)

Source: Lebanese Customs.

IMPORTS BY ORIGIN (Million US Dollars)

| | Jan - Sep | Share | Jan - Sep | Share |
|--------------------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|
| | 2015 | % | 2016 | % |
| CHINA | 1,582 | 12.0 | 1,595 | 11.2 |
| ITALY | 996 | 7.5 | 1,050 | 7.4 |
| USA | 747 | 5.7 | 933 | 6.6 |
| GERMANY | 898 | 6.8 | 865 | 6.1 |
| GREECE | 584 | 4.4 | 754 | 5.3 |
| RUSSIAN FEDERATION | 656 | 5.0 | 605 | 4.2 |
| NETHERLANDS | 150 | 1.1 | 595 | 4.2 |
| EGYPT | 351 | 2.7 | 562 | 3.9 |
| KUWAIT | 18 | 0.1 | 543 | 3.8 |
| FRANCE | 809 | 6.1 | 524 | 3.7 |
| OTHER COUNTRIES | 6,430 | 48.6 | 6,214 | 43.6 |
| TOTAL IMPORTS | 13,221 | 100.0 | 14,240 | 100.0 |

Source: Lebanese Customs.

EXPORTS BY DESTINATION (Million US Dollars)

| | Jan - Sep | Share | Jan - Sep | Share |
|-----------------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|
| | 2015 | % | 2016 | % |
| SOUTH AFRICA | 150 | 6.7 | 518 | 23.2 |
| SAUDI ARABIA | 275 | 12.3 | 207 | 9.3 |
| UAE | 230 | 10.3 | 182 | 8.2 |
| SYRIA | 158 | 7.1 | 128 | 5.7 |
| IRAQ | 171 | 7.7 | 125 | 5.6 |
| JORDAN | 83 | 3.7 | 72 | 3.2 |
| QATAR | 62 | 2.8 | 55 | 2.5 |
| SWITZERLAND | 50 | 2.2 | 55 | 2.5 |
| KUWAIT | 51 | 2.3 | 52 | 2.3 |
| EGYPT | 65 | 2.9 | 44 | 2.0 |
| OTHER COUNTRIES | 939 | 42.0 | 790 | 35.5 |
| TOTAL EXPORTS | 2,234 | 100.0 | 2,228 | 100.0 |

Source: Lebanese Customs.



THE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET OF COMMERCIAL BANKS OPERATING IN LEBANON (End of Period - Billion LBP)

| | 20 |)15 | | 2016 | |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Sep | Dec | Jul | Aug | Sep |
| ASSETS | | | | | |
| Reserves | 105,008 | 107,021 | 116,271 | 127,181 | 128,895 |
| -Cash | 683 | 693 | 779 | 763 | 730 |
| -Deposits at the Central Bank | 104,325 | 106,329 | 115,492 | 126,419 | 128,165 |
| Claims on the Private Sector | 70,584 | 72,427 | 74,727 | 75,307 | 75,666 |
| -Claims denominated in Lebanese Pound | 20,113 | 20,573 | 21,803 | 22,207 | 22,542 |
| -Claims denominated in Foreign Currencies | 50,471 | 51,854 | 52,924 | 53,101 | 53,124 |
| Claims on the Public Sector | 56,326 | 56,984 | 55,068 | 52,344 | 53,247 |
| o/w -Treasury Bills in Lebanese Pound | 30,753 | 30,243 | 25,597 | 25,882 | 27,298 |
| -Treasury Bills in Foreign Currencies | 25,434 | 26,600 | 29,324 | 26,299 | 25,756 |
| Foreign Assets | 33,641 | 35,870 | 33,491 | 31,894 | 32,598 |
| -Claims on Non-Resident Private Sector | 8,725 | 9,316 | 9,794 | 9,678 | 9,739 |
| -Claims on Non-Resident Banks | 15,554 | 17,422 | 14,295 | 12,790 | 13,718 |
| -Other Foreign Assets | 9,362 | 9,132 | 9,401 | 9,426 | 9,141 |
| Fixed Assets | 7,081 | 7,361 | 7,429 | 7,442 | 7,363 |
| Unclassified Assets | 733 | 716 | 838 | 960 | 823 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 273,373 | 280,379 | 287,823 | 295,129 | 298,592 |
| LIABILITIES | | | | | |
| Liabilities to the Private Sector | 178,451 | 180,489 | 185,031 | 187,198 | 188,621 |
| -Demand Deposits in Lebanese Pound | 4,789 | 4,907 | 4,987 | 5,471 | 5,350 |
| -Other Deposits in Lebanese Pound | 68,198 | 68,678 | 70,398 | 70,805 | 71,170 |
| -Deposits in Foreign Currencies | 105,464 | 106,904 | 109,646 | 110,922 | 112,102 |
| Liabilities to the Public Sector | 4,886 | 5,074 | 4,872 | 5,011 | 5,250 |
| Deposits of Non-Residents | 46,338 | 48,026 | 48,730 | 49,619 | 49,784 |
| -Denominated in Lebanese Pound | 6,552 | 6,680 | 6,731 | 7,190 | 6,974 |
| -Denominated in Foreign Currencies | 39,787 | 41,346 | 41,999 | 42,430 | 42,810 |
| Liabilities to Non-Resident Banks | 9,515 | 9,864 | 9,207 | 9,921 | 9,954 |
| Bonds | 363 | 412 | 420 | 466 | 422 |
| Capital Base | 24,553 | 25,131 | 26,272 | 26,272 | 26,332 |
| -Core Capital | 22,786 | 23,300 | 24,448 | 24,447 | 24,506 |
| -Supplementary Capital | 1,767 | 1,831 | 1,824 | 1,825 | 1,826 |
| Unclassified Liabilities | 9,267 | 11,383 | 13,292 | 16,641 | 18,228 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 273,373 | 280,379 | 287,823 | 295,129 | 298,592 |



| | 20 |)15 | | 2016 | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Sep | Dec | Jul | Aug | Sep |
| Money Supply | | | | | |
| Currency in circulation | 3,743 | 4,014 | 4,165 | 4,230 | 4,231 |
| + Demand Deposits in LBP | 4,886 | 5,029 | 5,070 | 5,582 | 5,465 |
| = M1 | 8,629 | 9,042 | 9,236 | 9,811 | 9,697 |
| + Other Deposits in LBP | 69,073 | 69,578 | 71,136 | 71,586 | 71,967 |
| = M2 | 77,702 | 78,620 | 80,371 | 81,398 | 81,664 |
| + Deposits in Foreign Currencies | 106,056 | 107,475 | 110,257 | 111,512 | 112,707 |
| + Bonds | 277 | 265 | 263 | 270 | 270 |
| = M3 | 184,035 | 186,360 | 190,891 | 193,180 | 194,642 |
| + Treasury Bills Held by the Public | 10,783 | 11,009 | 11,040 | 11,175 | 10,885 |
| = M4 | 194,818 | 197,369 | 201,931 | 204,355 | 205,527 |
| Counterparts of the Money Supply | | | | | |
| Net Foreign Assets | 49,806 | 46,608 | 48,136 | 50,695 | 51,169 |
| o/w Gold | 15,621 | 14,846 | 18,508 | 18,274 | 18,439 |
| Net Claims on the Public Sector | 68,341 | 70,688 | 77,570 | 75,343 | 75,168 |
| Valuation Adjustment | -7,022 | -6,401 | -10,199 | -9,982 | -10,173 |
| Claims on the Private Sector | 73,547 | 75,695 | 78,021 | 78,629 | 78,986 |
| Claims in LBP | 21,248 | 21,733 | 22,994 | 23,422 | 23,756 |
| Claims in FC | 52,299 | 53,961 | 55,027 | 55,207 | 55,230 |
| Other Items (Net) | -638 | -229 | -2,637 | -1,506 | -509 |
| TOTAL | 184,035 | 186,360 | 190,891 | 193,180 | 194,642 |

MONEY SUPPLY AND COUNTERPARTS (End of Period - Billion LBP)



OUTSTANDING PUBLIC DEBT BY TYPE OF HOLDER (End of Period - Billion LBP) (Actual Value*)

| Year And | | Total Debt | Local Currency Debt | | | | Foreign Currency Debt | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|------------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------|-------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|--|
| Month | | | Central Bank | Banks | Others ⁽¹⁾ | Total | IDI** | FG+ | Paris II loans | Others ⁽²⁾ | Total | | |
| 2014 | Dec | 100,356 | 19,855 | 31,468 | 10,429 | 61,752 | 1,619 | 1,839 | 128 | 35,018 | 38,604 | | |
| 2015 | Sep | 103,608 | 22,896 | 30,459 | 10,783 | 64,138 | 1,482 | 1,684 | 84 | 36,220 | 39,470 | | |
| | Oct | 104,086 | 23,363 | 30,497 | 10,860 | 64,720 | 1,465 | 1,640 | 83 | 36,178 | 39,366 | | |
| | Nov | 106,181 | 23,898 | 30,455 | 10,946 | 65,299 | 1,491 | 1,538 | 80 | 37,773 | 40,882 | | |
| | Dec | 106,015 | 24,308 | 29,878 | 11,009 | 65,195 | 1,513 | 1,571 | 83 | 37,653 | 40,820 | | |
| 2016 | Jan | 106,481 | 25,380 | 29,139 | 11,029 | 65,548 | 1,509 | 1,570 | 83 | 37,771 | 40,933 | | |
| | Feb | 107,363 | 25,763 | 29,455 | 11,106 | 66,324 | 1,517 | 1,578 | 66 | 37,878 | 41,039 | | |
| | Mar | 107,107 | 26,215 | 29,036 | 10,761 | 66,012 | 1,527 | 1,608 | 69 | 37,891 | 41,095 | | |
| | Apr | 108,059 | 26,752 | 28,883 | 10,718 | 66,353 | 1,606 | 1,593 | 68 | 38,439 | 41,706 | | |
| | May | 107,776 | 24,432 | 28,745 | 10,864 | 64,041 | 1,601 | 1,513 | 67 | 40,554 | 43,735 | | |
| | Jun | 109,890 | 28,560 | 26,749 | 10,967 | 66,276 | 1,603 | 1,511 | 67 | 40,433 | 43,614 | | |
| | Jul | 110,628 | 30,023 | 25,831 | 11,040 | 66,894 | 1,590 | 1,505 | 67 | 40,572 | 43,734 | | |
| | Aug | 111,627 | 30,442 | 26,154 | 11,175 | 67,771 | 1,595 | 1,514 | 50 | 40,697 | 43,856 | | |
| | Sep | 112,649 | 30,183 | 27,724 | 10,885 | 68,792 | 1,590 | 1,511 | 51 | 40,705 | 43,857 | | |

Source :BDL.

* The figures are equal to the principal paid plus the interests due.

** IDI : International Development Institutions.

+ FG : Foreign Governments.

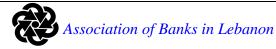
(1) Include: public TB's, public entities TB's and financial institutions TB's.

(2) Include: Eurobonds holders (banks, non banks, residents and non residents), foreign private sector loans and special TB's in FC (expropriation bonds).

TREASURY BILLS PORTFOLIO IN LBP

(Face value, Billion LBP)

| Year And Month | In Circulation Issue Reimbursement End of period | | | | Weighted Average Life (days) | Weighted Average Interest (%) | |
|----------------------|--|--------|-------|-------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| 2014 | Dec | 60,644 | 1,339 | 1,232 | 1,193 | 6.89 | |
| 2015 | Sep | 63,021 | 1,661 | 1,757 | 1,228 | 6.93 | |
| | Oct | 63,654 | 1,789 | 1,156 | 1,234 | 6.94 | |
| | Nov | 64,165 | 1,032 | 521 | 1,218 | 6.93 | |
| | Dec | 64,112 | 905 | 958 | 1,222 | 6.94 | |
| 2016 | Jan | 64,368 | 1,689 | 1,433 | 1,217 | 6.93 | |
| | Feb | 65,071 | 1,229 | 526 | 1,213 | 6.93 | |
| | Mar | 64,940 | 2,004 | 2,135 | 1,250 | 6.95 | |
| | Apr | 65,262 | 1,464 | 1,142 | 1,268 | 6.96 | |
| | May | 62,930 | 2,172 | 4,504 | 1,232 | 6.95 | |
| | Jun | 65,280 | 3,403 | 1,053 | 1,283 | 6.96 | |
| | Jul | 65,765 | 1,748 | 1,263 | 1,286 | 6.96 | |
| | Aug | 66,535 | 1,652 | 885 | 1,278 | 6.95 | |
| | Sep | 67,627 | 2,630 | 1,538 | 1,281 | 6.94 | |



| Yea | r | Average L | ending ** | Average | Deposit | Inter | 3m | Inte | rest rate | es on TB | s (last is | ssue) | | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|--------|-------|------|-----------|----------|------------|-------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| And | d | Rate on | Funds in | Rate on | Funds in | Bank | Libor | 3-m | 6-m | 12-m | 24-m | 36-m | 60-m | 84-m | 96-m | 120-m | 144-m | 180-n |
| Mon | th | LBP | US\$ | LBP | US\$ | Rate * | \$ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2014 | Dec | 7.49 | 6.97 | 5.56 | 3.07 | 2.75 | 0.24 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | | | | | |
| 2015 | Sep | 7.08 | 7.19 | 5.57 | 3.14 | 3.05 | 0.33 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | | | 7.33 | | |
| | Oct | 7.13 | 7.05 | 5.67 | 3.20 | 3.03 | 0.32 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | 6.96 | | 7.33 | | |
| | Nov | 6.93 | 7.15 | 5.56 | 3.17 | 3.03 | 0.37 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | 6.96 | | | | |
| | Dec | 7.45 | 7.06 | 5.56 | 3.17 | 3.03 | 0.54 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | | | 7.33 | | |
| 2016 | Jan | 8.28 | 7.34 | 5.52 | 3.22 | 3.00 | 0.62 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | 6.96 | | | | |
| | Feb | 8.18 | 7.31 | 5.57 | 3.22 | 3.05 | 0.62 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | | | 7.33 | | |
| | Mar | 8.62 | 7.36 | 5.59 | 3.27 | 3.06 | 0.63 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | 6.96 | | | | 7.75 |
| | Apr | 8.40 | 7.17 | 5.60 | 3.29 | 3.07 | 0.63 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | 6.96 | | 7.33 | | |
| | May | 8.53 | 7.29 | 5.58 | 3.26 | 3.01 | 0.65 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | 6.96 | | 7.33 | | |
| | Jun | 8.31 | 7.20 | 5.56 | 3.31 | 3.80 | 0.65 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | 6.96 | | 7.33 | | |
| | Jul | 8.32 | 7.25 | 5.57 | 3.30 | 3.04 | 0.70 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | 6.96 | | 7.33 | | |
| | Aug | 8.29 | 7.28 | 5.56 | 3.39 | 3.02 | 0.81 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | 6.96 | | 7.33 | | |
| | Sep | 8.44 | 7.20 | 5.58 | 3.43 | 3.00 | 0.85 | 4.39 | 4.87 | 5.08 | 5.76 | 6.40 | 6.63 | 6.96 | | 7.33 | | |

AVERAGE INTEREST RATES

Sources: BDL, Société Financière du Liban s.a.l.

* On Funds in LBP, weighted by daily volume.

** Starting January 2016, lending rates are calculated according to intermediary circular No 389.

END OF PERIOD EXCHANGE RATES (LBP per other currencies)

| Year and Month | | US | Swiss | British | Japanese | Euro |
|-------------------|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | Dollar | Franc | Pound | Yen | |
| 2014 | Dec | 1,507.50 | 1,524.27 | 2,341.75 | 12.62 | 1,833.87 |
| 2015 | Sep | 1,507.50 | 1,548.70 | 2,291.25 | 12.54 | 1,690.51 |
| | Oct | 1,507.50 | 1,527.05 | 2,312.66 | 12.51 | 1,659.31 |
| | Nov | 1,507.50 | 1,462.31 | 2,261.85 | 12.25 | 1,594.18 |
| | Dec | 1,507.50 | 1,520.88 | 2,232.46 | 12.51 | 1,646.64 |
| 2016 | Jan | 1,507.50 | 1,478.67 | 2,162.36 | 12.47 | 1,643.48 |
| | Feb | 1,507.50 | 1,504.64 | 2,088.49 | 13.34 | 1,640.91 |
| | Mar | 1,507.50 | 1,566.56 | 2,171.40 | 13.42 | 1,715.23 |
| | Apr | 1,507.50 | 1,558.95 | 2,194.02 | 13.95 | 1,710.41 |
| | May | 1,507.50 | 1,522.57 | 2,202.91 | 13.57 | 1,681.31 |
| | Jun | 1,507.50 | 1,544.89 | 2,033.47 | 14.66 | 1,680.11 |
| | Jul | 1,507.50 | 1,542.20 | 1,983.87 | 14.53 | 1,673.48 |
| | Aug | 1,507.50 | 1,531.70 | 1,980.55 | 14.60 | 1,679.66 |
| | Sep | 1,507.50 | 1,556.37 | 1,954.93 | 14.92 | 1,685.84 |







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