

Public Debt Statistical Bulletin

Fourth Quarter, 2020

Prepared by the

Treasury & Debt Management Division Ministry of Finance, Ghana

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Disclaimer: The data herein are provisional. The Ministry reserves the right to revise the figures anytime new information becomes available..





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Abbreviations

ATM - Average Time to Maturity
ATR - Average Time to Re-fixing

BoG - Bank of Ghana

CAP - Coronavirus Alleviation Programme

CNY - Chinese Yuan Renminbi
 CPI - Consumer Price Index
 ECFs - Export Credit Facilities

EUR - Euro

FX - Foreign Exchange
GBP - Great Britain Pound
GDP - Gross Domestic Product

GHC - Ghana Cedi

GIR - Gross International Reserves

GoG - Government of Ghana

ICM - International Capital MarketIMF - International Monetary Fund

JPY - Japanese Yen KRW - Korean Won KWD - Kuwaiti Dinar

MoF - Ministry of Finance

MPC - Monetary Policy CommitteePPEs - Personal Protective Equipment

RCF - Rapid Credit Facility

SAR - Saudi Riyal

SMEs - Small and Medium Scale Enterprises

ST - Short-Term

TDMD - Treasury and Debt Management Division

USD - United States Dollar VRA - Volta River Authority

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1. Introduction

This quarterly public debt bulletin is published in fulfilment of the requirements of Section 71 of the Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921), which mandate the Public Debt Office to publish, at least half-yearly, statistics on the public debt. This bulletin shows Government's commitment to ensuring transparency in its debt management operations. The bulletin gives a brief overview of the public debt as at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020 and the activities and transactions that impacted the public debt portfolio during the period.

2. Economic Developments

Global Economic Developments

The approval of some vaccines to be administered globally, by the fourth quarter of 2020, raised hopes of a faster recovery from the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic. However, in the latter part of the year, a second wave, which was characterised by new variants of the virus, dampened expectations across the globe. Despite this, global economic activity, on average, experienced a stronger-than-anticipated rebound in the second half of 2020 as various measures to adapt to life in the COVID-19 pandemic helped to induce growth globally.

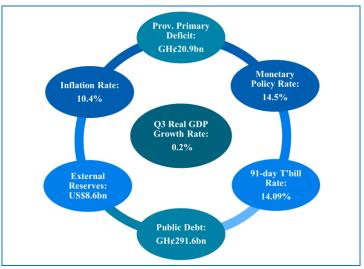
The International Monetary Fund (IMF), in its January 2021 World Economic Outlook (WEO) update, estimated a contraction in global output by 3.5 percent for 2020¹, a marginal improvement of 0.9 percentage points from its earlier forecast of a 4.4 percent contraction in the October 2020 update.

¹ World Economic Outlook Update, January 2021: Policy Support and Vaccines Expected to Lift Activity (imf.org)

Domestic Economic Developments

On the domestic front, economic growth gained some traction in the last two quarters of 2020 on account of supportive fiscal and monetary policies and the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. The economy contracted by 1.1 percent (YoY) in the third quarter, compared to a contraction of 3.2 percent reported in the second quarter. The average growth in Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) provisionally stands at 0.2 percent as at the end of the third quarter of 2020.

Figure 1: Snapshot of Key Macroeconomic Indicators, end Q4 2020



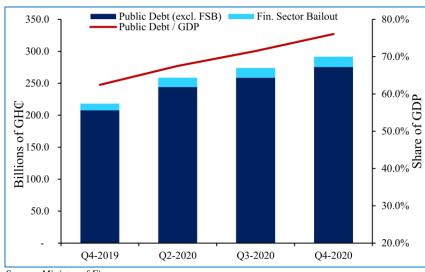
Source: MoF, BoG, GSS

On the monetary front, the Bank of Ghana's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) left the policy rate unchanged at 14.5 percent in the fourth quarter of 2020 while inflation also remained unchanged at 10.4 percent during the quarter. The rate on the 91-day Treasury Bill, however, fell by 61 basis points to 14.09 percent at the end of the quarter, compared to the same period in 2019. Figure 1 gives a snapshot of key macroeconomic indicators.

3. Highlights of Public Debt

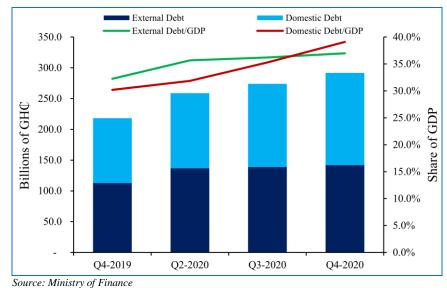
At the end of the fourth guarter of 2020, the total public debt stood at GHC291.63 billion (US\$50.83 billion). representing 76.1 percent of GDP and an increase of 33.6% compared to the stock as at end fourth 2019. This quarter, comprises external debt of GHC141.80 billion (US\$24.72 billion) and domestic debt of GHC149.83 billion (US\$26.12 billion).

Figure 2: Provisional Public Debt Stock, end Q4 2020



The total stock of debt issued in support of the financial sector clean up stood at GHC16.30 billion (US\$2.84 billion) at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020. Accordingly, the public debt excluding the financial sector bailout was GHC275.33 billion (US\$47.99 billion). representing 71.8 percent of GDP.

Figure 3: Provisional Classification of Public Debt by Source, end Q4 2020



Total public debt, as a

share of GDP, increased from 62.4 percent at end fourth quarter 2019 to 76.1 percent by the end of the fourth quarter of 2020, representing an increase in the public debt stock by 13.6 percentage points. This was driven largely by an increase in the stock of domestic debt to cover the cost of bailout in the financial sector and COVID-19-related expenditures. The domestic-debt-to-GDP ratio surpassed the ratio of external debt to GDP at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020 and stood at 39.1 percent and 37.0 percent, respectively (see Figure 3).

Figure 4: External Debt Stock by Creditor, end Q4 2020

4. Review of External Debt Portfolio

The stock of external debt at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020 totaled GHC141.79 billion (US\$24.72 billion), accounting for 48.6 percent of the total public debt stock and 37.0 percent of GDP. This represents an increase of 25.8 percent over the end fourth quarter 2019 position.

The share of commercial debt in the external debt portfolio as at end fourth

■ Commercial ■ Multilateral ■ Other Concessional ■ Bilateral ■ Export Credits 160.0 140.0 120.0 100.0 80.0 60.0 40.0 20.0

Q3-2020

Q4-2020

Q2-2020

Q4-2019

Source: Ministry of Finance

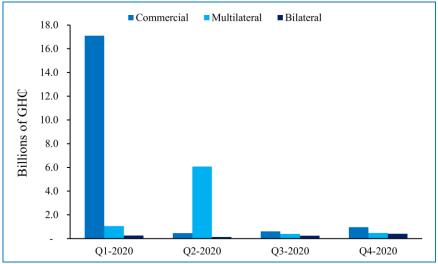
quarter 2020 (51.1%) showed a substantial increase over the end fourth quarter 2019 share (48.5%), mainly on account of the Eurobond issuance in the first quarter of the year. Over the same period, the share of multilateral debt increased marginally from 32.2 percent to 33.5 percent.

External Debt Disbursement

Total disbursements for the fourth quarter of 2020 amounted to GHC1.85 billion (US\$0.32 billion), compared GHC1.24 to billion (US\$0.22 billion) recorded for the previous quarter. Disbursements in the fourth quarter were mainly on loan commitments from IDA and EXIM China.

The majority of total external inflows received in the year 2020 occurred

Figure 5: External Debt Disbursement, end Q4 2020



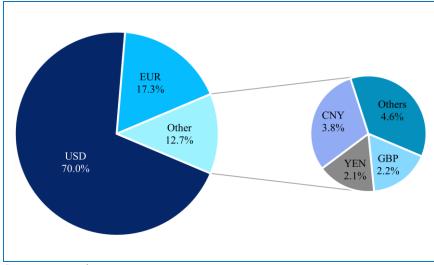
Source: Ministry of Finance

in the first half and consisted primarily of proceeds from the Eurobond and IMF Rapid Credit Facility (RCF), which were realised in the first and second quarters, respectively.

Currency Composition of External Debt

USD-The share of denominated debt (70.0%) remained dominant in the debt portfolio, external followed by EURdenominated debt (17.3%) CNY-denominated and debt (3.8%) as at end December 2020^2 .

Figure 6: Currency Composition of External Debt, end Q4 2020

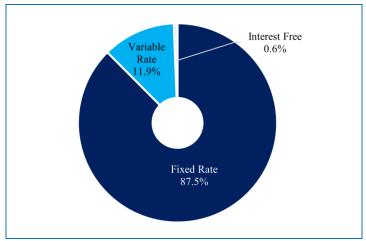


² The SDR has been decomposed and added to their respective components.

Interest Rate Structure of External Debt

The external debt portfolio largely comprises fixed rate debt, which accounted for 87.5 percent of the external debt as at end fourth quarter, 2020. The share of variable debt in the external debt portfolio was 11.9 percent whereas interest-free debt, which consists of subsidized loans from some bilateral creditors. accounted for 0.6 percent over the same period. The share of interestfree debt in the portfolio continues to dwindle as fewer of such loans have been sourced in recent years.

Figure 7: Interest Rate Structure of External Debt, end Q4

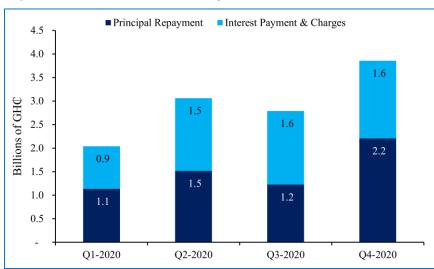


Source: Ministry of Finance

External Debt Service

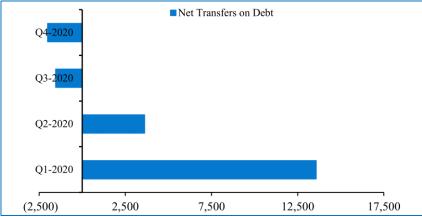
Total external debt service payments in the fourth quarter of 2020 amounted to GHC3.86 billion, comprising principal repayments of GHC2.21 billion and interest payments other charges GHC1.65 billion. Total debt service payments in the fourth quarter of 2020 increased by 38.3 percent compared to the previous quarter.

Figure 8: External Debt Service, end Q4 2020



total net outflow GHC2.00 billion was recorded in the fourth quarter of 2020, slightly higher than the third quarter net outflow of GHC1.55 billion and substantially lower than the net inflows of GHC13.57 billion and GHC3.62 billion recorded for the first and second quarters, respectively. The variation in net flows

Figure 9: Net Flows on External Debt, end Q4 2020



Source: Ministry of Finance

compared to the first and second quarters is on account of the higher disbursements recorded in those quarters.

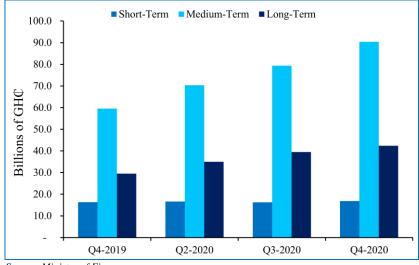
5. Review of Domestic Debt Portfolio

The stock of domestic debt as at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020 amounted to GHC149.83 billion (US\$26.12 billion), representing 51.4 percent of the total public debt stock and 39.1 percent of GDP. This shows an increase of 42.0 percent over the end fourth quarter 2019 position. Excluding the financial sector bailout, domestic debt as at end fourth quarter 2020 was GHC133.54 billion (US\$23.27 billion). The increase in the domestic debt portfolio was mainly on account of the issuance of a GHC10.0 billion COVID-19 bond to support the Government's Coronavirus Alleviation Programme (CAP).

Domestic Debt by Tenor

The proportion of mediumterm debt remained dominant in the domestic debt portfolio at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020, accounting for 60.3 percent of the domestic debt portfolio compared to 56.4 percent recorded at the end of the fourth quarter of 2019. The share of the instruments, short-term however, declined by 4.2 percentage points to 11.3 percent over the same

Figure 10: Domestic Debt Stock by Tenor, end Q4 2020

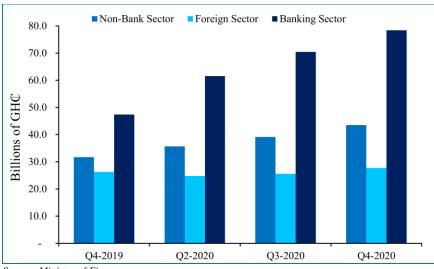


period. Long-term debt and standard loans recorded a percentage share of 28.3 percent and 0.1 percent of total domestic debt, respectively.

Holders of Domestic Debt

As at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020, majority of the domestic debt stock was held by the banking sector (52.3%), comprising the Bank of Ghana (22.4%) and Deposit Money Banks (29.9%).Holdings of domestic debt by the nonbank sector (including individuals and firms & institutions) stood at 29.0 percent at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020. The share of the foreign sector

Figure 11: Holders of Domestic Debt, end Q4 2020



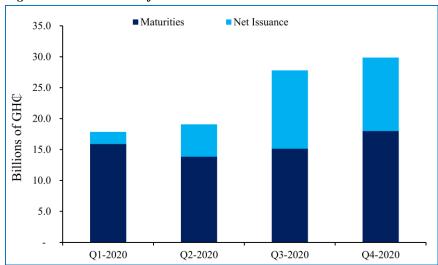
Source: Ministry of Finance

(non-resident) holdings declined by 6.4 percentage points to 18.5 percent over the period. The share of standard loans remained relatively unchanged, accounting for 0.1 percent of total domestic debt.

Domestic Issuances and Redemptions

Total domestic issuances increased significantly to GHC29.88 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020 to support financial sector bailout and COVID-19-related expenditures over the period. This compares to maturities of GHC17.98 billion, resulting in a positive net issuance of GHC11.90 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020.

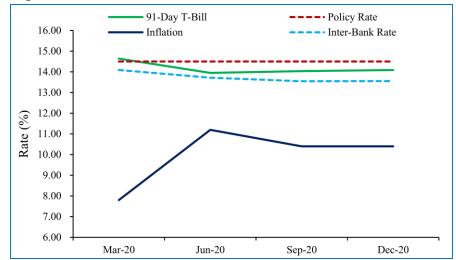
Figure 12: Net Issuance of Domestic Securities



Domestic Interest Rates and Inflation

Domestic rates generally inched downwards by the end of the fourth quarter of 2020. The 91-day treasury bill and weighted average interbank interest rates fell by 55 and 53 basis points between the end of the first and fourth quarters of 2020, respectively. The rate of inflation and the monetary policy rate, however, remained unchanged over the period under review.

Figure 13: Movement in Domestic Interest Rates in 2020

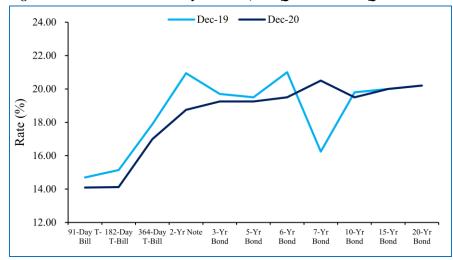


Source: Ministry of Finance

Yield Curve at Primary Issuance

Yields on Government securities for primary issuances generally inched down by the end of the fourth quarter of 2020, compared to the same period in 2019. Kinks observed in the yield curve as at end fourth quarter 2019 smoothened out to reveal a relatively normal yield curve at the end of the same period in 2020.

Figure 14: Yield Curve at Primary Issuance, end Q4 2019 & end Q4 2020



Source: Ministry of Finance

6. Government On-lending Operations

Government received a total of GHC0.01 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020, being debt service payment from Volta River Authority (VRA) for on-lent facilities falling due.

7. Appendices

Table 1: Macroeconomic Performance, end Q4 2019 – end Q4 2020

Description	Q4-2019	Q2-2020	Q3-2020	Q4-2020
National Accounts				
Nominal GDP (GHC' bn)	349.5	383.3	383.3	383.3
Fiscal and Debt				
Fiscal Balance on Cash Basis (% of GDP)	-4.8	-6.3	-9.0	-11.7
Primary Balance (% of GDP)	0.8	-4.1	-3.1	-5.3
Gross Public Debt (% of GDP)	62.4	67.5	71.5	76.1
Monetary				
Interest Rate (91-day Treasury Bill) (%)	14.7	14.0	14.0	14.1
Year-on-year CPI Inflation (%)	7.9	7.8	10.4	10.4
BoG Monetary Policy Rate (%)	16.0	14.5	14.5	14.5
Broad Money (M2+) Growth (%)	16.1	22.1	30.7	29.6
External				
Current Account Balance (% of GDP)	-2.8	-0.8	-1.8	-3.0
Gross International Reserves (months of import cover)	4.0	4.3	4.0	4.1
Gross International Reserves (US\$' bn)	8,418.1	9,171.4	8,469.2	8,624.4
Exchange Rate Depreciation (GHC/US\$)	-15.7	-2.4	-3.0	-3.9

Table 2: Public Debt Dynamics

		% of		% of		% of		% of
(GHC' millions)	Q4-2019	debt	Q2-2020	debt	Q3-2020	debt	Q4-2020	debt
Total Public Debt	218,228.9		258,787.7		274,091.2		291,630.7	
External Debt	112,747.7	51.7%	136,703.2	52.8%	138,827.7	50.7%	141,796.8	48.6%
Domestic Debt	105,481.2	48.3%	122,084.5	47.2%	135,263.5	49.3%	149,833.9	51.4%
o/w FSB	10,698.1	4.9%	14,736.5	5.7%	15,429.3	5.6%	16,295.9	5.6%
Public Debt / GDP	62.4%		67.5%		71.5%		76.1%	
External Debt/GDP	32.3%		35.7%		36.2%		37.0%	
Domestic Debt/GDP	30.2%		31.9%		35.3%		39.1%	
Rate of Debt Accumulation (quarterly)					5.9%		6.4%	

Table 3: Classification of External Debt Stock by Creditor Category

(GHC' millions)	Q4-2019	%	Q2-2020	%	Q3-2020	%	Q4-2020	%
Total External Debt	112,747.7		136,703.2		138,827.7		141,796.8	
Commercial	54,630.2	48.5%	70,655.5	51.7%	71,798.8	51.7%	72,462.2	51.1%
Eurobonds	42,633.4	37.8%	58,012.3	42.4%	58,285.3	42.0%	58,605.0	42.2%
Multilateral	36,321.2	32.2%	44,288.6	32.4%	45,263.1	32.6%	47,504.1	33.5%
Other Concessional	9,180.9	8.1%	9,381.8	6.9%	8,840.2	6.4%	8,844.7	6.2%
Bilateral	6,803.3	6.0%	6,828.8	5.0%	7,208.4	5.2%	7,443.1	5.2%
Export Credits	5,812.0	5.2%	5,548.6	4.1%	5,717.2	4.1%	5,542.7	3.9%

Table 4: Quarterly Disbursements

(GHC' millions)	Q1-2020	Q2-2020	Q3-2020	Q4-2020	
Total Disbursements	18,414.0	6,680.0	1,243.8	1,850.4	
Commercial	17,096.7	467.8	608.8	963.7	
Multilateral	1,058.5	6,076.0	390.6	478.9	
Bilateral	258.8	136.2	244.4	407.8	

Table 5: Currency Composition of External Debt

	Q4-2019	Q2-2020	Q3-2020	Q4-2020
USD	70.7%	72.0%	71.4%	70.0%
EUR	16.6%	15.8%	16.4%	17.3%
GBP	2.0%	2.1%	2.1%	2.2%
YEN	1.9%	2.0%	2.0%	2.1%
CNY	3.6%	3.5%	3.7%	3.8%
Others	5.3%	4.6%	4.5%	4.6%

Table 6: Interest Structure of External Debt

	Q4-2019	Q2-2020	Q3-2020	Q4-2020
Fixed Rate	85.3%	87.8%	87.4%	87.5%
Variable Rate	14.0%	11.6%	12.0%	11.9%
Interest Free	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%

Table 7: Net Flow of External Debt

(GHC' millions)	Q1-2020	Q2-2020	Q3-2020	Q4-2020
Total Disbursement	18,207.3	1,173.1	1,245.5	1,837.4
Principal Repayment	1,134.0	1,517.0	1,226.0	2,207.3
Net flow on Debt	17,073.3	(343.9)	19.5	(369.8)
Interest Payment & Charges	906.8	1,545.0	1,562.9	1,648.7
Net Transfers on Debt	16,166.4	(1,888.9)	(1,543.4)	(2,018.5)

Table 8: Classification of Domestic Debt Stock by Original Tenor

(GHC' millions)	Q4-2019	%	Q2-2020	%	Q3-2020	%	Q4-2020	%
Total Domestic Debt	105,481.2		122,084.5		135,263.5		149,833.9	
Short-Term	16,341.0	15.5%	16,659.7	13.6%	16,286.9	12.0%	16,861.0	11.3%
Medium-Term	59,520.5	56.4%	70,343.9	57.6%	79,393.6	58.7%	90,375.6	60.3%
Long-Term	29,496.8	28.0%	34,963.1	28.6%	39,465.3	29.2%	42,375.6	28.3%
Standard Loans	122.9	0.1%	117.7	0.1%	117.7	0.1%	221.6	0.1%

Table 9: Classification of Domestic Debt by Holders

(GHC' millions)	Q4-2019	%	Q2-2020	%	Q3-2020	%	Q4-2020	%
Total Domestic Debt	105,481.2		122,084.5		135,263.5		149,833.9	
Banking Sector	47,380.4	44.9%	61,531.3	50.4%	70,431.5	52.1%	78,404.7	52.3%
Bank of Ghana	15,598.7	14.8%	22,905.7	18.8%	31,333.2	23.2%	33,621.9	22.4%
Deposit Money Banks	31,781.6	30.1%	38,625.6	31.6%	39,098.3	28.9%	44,782.8	29.9%
Non-Bank Sector	31,685.7	30.0%	35,667.4	29.2%	39,149.7	28.9%	43,520.4	29.0%
SSNIT	313.1	0.3%	611.3	0.5%	394.9	0.3%	661.4	0.4%
Insurance Companies	581.8	0.6%	678.2	0.6%	740.7	0.5%	858.2	0.6%
Other Holders	30,790.7	29.2%	34,377.9	28.2%	38,014.1	28.1%	42,000.8	28.0%
Foreign Sector	26,292.3	24.9%	24,768.0	20.3%	25,564.6	18.9%	27,687.2	18.5%
Other Standard Loans	122.9	0.1%	117.7	0.1%	117.7	0.1%	221.6	0.1%

Table 10: Issuances and Redemptions of Domestic Securities

(GHC'	Q1-2020			Q2-2020			Q3-2020			Q4-2020		
millions)	Issuance	Maturities	Net Issuance									
91-Day T-Bill	7,665.4	7,153.4	511.9	8,760.2	7,665.4	1,094.8	8,877.5	8,760.2	117.3	10,030.7	8,877.5	1,153.2
182-Day T-Bill	1,430.0	1,439.3	(9.3)	1,505.3	1,403.3	102.0	1,386.8	1,430.0	(43.1)	1,469.7	1,505.3	(35.7)
364-Day T-Bill	1,553.9	1,812.1	(258.2)	1,333.5	2,456.0	(1,122.5)	687.9	1,134.8	(446.9)	1,043.1	1,586.6	(543.5)
2-Year Note	1,390.4	2,918.4	(1,528.1)	789.6	627.0	162.7	3,768.3	176.2	3,592.1	5,569.8	3,881.1	1,688.7
3-Year Bond	3,482.5	1,645.7	1,836.8	2,463.8	1,504.3	959.5	7,051.2	2,051.5	4,999.8	6,617.1	-	6,617.1
5-Year Bond	1,403.9	702.8	701.1	2,969.2	-	2,969.2	1,214.7	-	1,214.7	2,857.4	1,050.7	1,806.7
6-Year Bond	54.8	-	54.8	451.3	-	451.3	566.5	-	566.5	-	924.3	(924.3)
7-Year Bond	739.1	-	739.1	-	-	-	955.6	1,387.6	(432.0)	1,424.5	-	1,424.5
10-Year Bond	150.0	1	150.0	402.8	1	402.8	3,094.3	1	3,094.3	289.6	-	289.6
15-Year Bond	-	-	-	400.0	-	400.0	215.7	156.3	59.3	400.0	-	400.0
20-Year Bond	-	-	-	-	-	-		-		176.5	-	176.5
Non- Marketable	-	213.5	(213.5)	-	185.3	(185.3)	-	57.2	(57.2)	-	158.7	(158.7)
Total	17,869.8	15,885.3	1,984.5	19,075.7	13,841.2	5,234.5	27,818.6	15,153.8	12,664.8	29,878.5	17,984.3	11,894.2

Table 11: Domestic Rates

Instrument	Mar-20	Jun-20	Sep-20	Dec-20
91-Day T-Bill	14.64	13.95	14.04	14.09
182-Day T-Bill	15.15	14.02	14.15	14.12
364-Day T-Bill	17.65	16.89	16.99	17.00
2-Year Note	20.20	18.75	18.25	18.75
3-Year Bond	19.70	18.85	19.00	19.25
5-Year Bond	21.70	19.25	19.25	19.25
6-Year Bond	21.00	21.00	19.50	19.50
7-Year Bond	16.25	16.25	20.00	20.50
10-Year Bond	19.80	19.80	19.50	19.50
15-Year Bond	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
20-Year Bond	20.20	20.20	20.20	20.20
Policy Rate	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50
Inflation	7.80	11.20	10.40	9.90
Inter-Bank Rate	14.09	13.72	13.55	13.56

Table 12: Interest Rates on Government Securities at Primary Issuance

Instrument	Dec-19	Dec-20
91-Day T-Bill	14.70	14.09
182-Day T-Bill	15.15	14.12
364-Day T-Bill	17.90	17.00
2-Year Note	20.95	18.75
3-Year Bond	19.70	19.25
5-Year Bond	19.50	19.25
6-Year Bond	21.00	19.50
7-Year Bond	16.25	20.50
10-Year Bond	19.80	19.50
15-Year Bond	20.00	20.00
20-Year Bond	20.20	20.20

8. Glossary

Average Time to Maturity The average time to maturity measures the weighted average time to maturity of all the

principal payments in the portfolio.

Bonds Debt securities that give holders an unconditional right to fixed income or contractually

determined payments on a specified date or dates.

Bilateral Debt Debt contracted from other sovereign countries.

Commercial Debt Short-term borrowing from banking institutions other than Official Development

Assistance (ODA).

Concessional loans Loans that are extended on terms substantially generous than loans contracted on the open

market

Contingent Liability A contingency that will result in a liability if it occurs.

Coupon The annual interest rate paid on a bond expressed as a percentage of the face value.

Debt Service Debt payments in respect of both principal and interest and other charges.

Disbursement The transfer of the committed loan amount from the lender to the borrower, once

contractual conditions are fulfilled.

Domestic Debt issued on the domestic market.

External Debt Debt owed to a non-resident individual or institution.

Gross Domestic Product The market value of all final goods and services produced within a country in a given

period. The GDP is determined using data for production, expenditures, or income and is

presented in current or constant prices.

Interest Payment The amount paid periodically over a period to a lender as compensation for the use of the

lender's capital.

Interest Rate An interest rate is the cost or price of borrowing or the gain from lending, normally

expressed as an annual percentage.

Maturity The remaining time until the expiration or the repayment of an instrument.

Medium-Term Debt Debt with a maturities ranging from 2 to 10 years.

Multilateral Debt Debt contracted from multilateral institutions such as World Bank, IMF and development

banks such as the African Development Bank (AfDB).

Principal Repayment Payment made towards reducing disbursed outstanding debt.

Public Debt The total public (external and domestic) debt obligations of a country.

Refinancing Risk The risk associated with a borrower not being able to borrow to repay existing debt.

Short-Term Debt Debt with a maturity of one year or less.

Yield Curve A graph that shows the relationship between yield and maturity computed across all

government securities (or other securities).

