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TABLE OF CONTENTS

OVERVIEW.....	i-iv
I. DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORLD ECONOMY	1
1.1 Introduction.....	1
1.2 The United States Economy.....	1
1.3 The Euro Area.....	2
1.4 Emerging Markets and Developing Economies	2
1.5 Sub-Sahara Africa	2
1.6 Global Inflation	3
II. DOMESTIC ECONOMY	5
2.1 Introduction.....	5
2.2 Sectorial Review	6
2.2.1 Agriculture and Forestry	6
2.2.2 Industrial Production.....	7
2.2.2.1 Mining	7
2.2.2.2 Manufacturing	8
2.3 Consumption of Petroleum Products	12
2.4 Sea Port Developments	12
2.5 Electric Power Developments.....	13
2.6 Price Developments	14
2.6.1 Domestic Price Developments.....	14
2.6.2 Inflation by Group.....	15
2.6.2.1 Contribution to Changes in CPI (%)	15
2.6.2.2 Administered, Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Market Prices	17
2.6.2.3 Inflation Outlook	17
III. MONETARY AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT	22
3.1 Monetary Policy Stance	22
3.2 Banking Sector Developments	22
3.2.1 Capital	22
3.2.2 Asset and Liquidity	22
3.2.3 Profitability	23
3.2.4 Commercial Bank Credit	24

3.2.5 Interest Rate	27
3.2.6 Liberian Dollars in Circulation	27
3.2.7 Money Supply	28
3.2.8 Broad Money Supply	30
3.3 Government Securities	31
3.4 Central Bank of Liberia Bill and SDF	32
IV. FISCAL DEVELOPMENTS	36
4.1 Overview of GOL's Fiscal Operations	36
4.2 Government Revenue	36
4.3 Government Expenditure	37
4.4 Public Debt	38
V. EXTERNAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENTS	40
5.1 Overview	40
5.2 Current Account (CA)	40
5.2.1 Goods Account (Net)	40
5.2.2 Exports	41
5.2.3 Imports (FOB & CIF)	41
5.2.4 Direction of Trade (DOT)	42
5.2.5 Service Account (net)	43
5.2.5.1 Primary Income (net)	43
5.2.5.2 Secondary Income (Net)	44
5.2.5.3 Personal Remittances	44
5.3 Capital Account (KA)	44
5.4 Financial Account (FA)	46
5.4.1 Direct Investment (Net)	47
5.4.2 Direct Investment (Net)	47
5.5 Gross International Reserve Position	47
5.6 Exchange Rate Developments	48

Table 1.1: Selected Global Output.....	4
Table 2.1: Real Sector Outlook.....	6
Table 2.2: Key Key Agriculture Production	6
Table 2.3: Key Industrial Output	11
Table 2.4: Consumption of Petroleum Products	12
Table 2.5: Vessel Traffic and Cargo Movements	13
Table 2.6: Electric Power Developments.....	14
Table 2.7: Headline and Quarterly Changes in CPI (%).....	18
Table 2.8: Inflation by Sub-group	20
Table 2.9: Hamonized Consumer Price Index (HCPI) By Major Groups	21
Table 3.1: Commercial Bank’s Loans by Economic Sectors.....	26
Table 3.2: Commercial Bank’s Interest Rates	27
Table 3.3: Commercial Bank’s Interest Rates	28
Table 3.4: Broad Money Supply and Its Sources.....	29
Table 3.5: CBL Bills	33
Table 3.6: CBL Bills, Q3-2022.....	34
Table 4.1: Government Revenue	37
Table 4.2: Government Expenditure.....	38
Table 4.3:Liberia’s Public Debt Statistics	39
Table 5.1:Directions of Trade.....	42
Table 5.2: Balance of Payment Statistics	45
Table 5.3: Maket Exchange Rate: Liberia Dollar (LD) per US Dollar	49
Table 5.4: Monthly Average Buying and Selling Rates of Liberian Dollars per US Dollar (2019-2020) 49	
Chart 2.1: Key Agricultural Production.....	6
Chart 2.2: Consumption of Petroleum Products	12
Chart 2.3: Vessel Traffic.....	13
Chart 2.4: Electricity Generation	14
Chart 2.5: Headline and Core Inflations	15
Chart 2.6: Contributions to CPI	16
Chart 2.7: Food, Non-food, and Headline Inflation	16
Chart 2.8: Administered versus Market Prices	17
Chart 3.1:Percentage Distribution of Commercial Bank Loans by Economic Sectors.....	26
Chart 3.2: Liberian Dollars in Circulation	28
Chart 3.3: Narrow Money Supply (M1).....	30
Chart 3.4: Broad Money Supply (M2).....	31
Chart 3.5:Broad Money: Share of US and Liberan Dollars	31
Chart 3.6: Average Quarterly Yields (in Percent) Government of Liberia 91-day Treasury-bill Auctions	32
Chart 4.1: Graphical Outlook of GOL’s Fiscal Operations	36
Chart 5.1: Merchandise Trade Balance	41
Chart 5.2: Net Personal Inward Remittances	44
Chart 5.3: Balance of Payments Statistics.....	45
Chart 5.4: Main Balances of the BOP	47
Chart 5.5: Gross International Reserves, Imports and Months of Import Cover	48

OVERVIEW

The global economy in 2022 experienced a series of tumultuous challenges, following moderation in economic activity in the second quarter. Consequently, global output was forecast to decrease from 6.0 percent in 2021 to 3.2 percent in 2022, according to the October 2022 edition of the WEO¹. The downgrade in global output is expected to be largely induced by multiple challenges, including the higher-than-expected rise in inflation in most countries, multiple hikes in interest rates in most countries, the adverse effects of the ongoing Russian-Ukraine crisis as well as the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Notwithstanding, a successful calibration of monetary and fiscal policies was critical for watering down the effects of the challenges.

The growth for advanced economies was forecast at 2.4 percent, expected to be largely underpinned by developments in the USA, UK, and the Euro area. The US growth was downgraded by 0.7 percentage point to 1.6 percent in 2022 while the forecast for the Euro area was slightly upgraded by 0.5 percentage point to 3.1 percent – reflecting a stronger output in most of its countries. In emerging markets and developing economies, the forecast for growth was 3.7 percent for 2022, slightly upgraded by 0.1 percentage point. However, growths in China and India were forecast to slow in 2022, to 3.2 percent and 6.8 percent, respectively. Similarly, growth in Sub-Saharan Africa was forecast to moderate by 1.1 percentage point to 3.6 percent, relative to the 4.7 percent recorded in 2021. The moderation was largely expected to be driven by developments in South Africa and Nigeria.

In terms of price development, the average global consumer price was forecast to nearly double from 4.7 percent in 2021 to 8.8 percent in 2022. The surge in global inflation was largely fueled by the high energy and food prices, in addition to the tight labor markets condition in the second quarter as well as supply shortages. Inflation was forecast to more than double and reach 7.2 percent in advanced economies, while in emerging markets & developing economies, inflation was forecast at 9.9 percent. The upward revision for global inflation is mainly underpinned by the continuous rise in prices in advanced economies, particularly, the US and Euro area.

On the domestic front, real GDP growth was revised upward to 4.8 percent in 2022, compared to the earlier projection, 3.7 percent, on account of further improvement in the mining &

¹ World Economic Outlook

panning sub-sector and the services sector. However, the upgrade reflected 0.2 percentage point decrease when compared to performance in the previous year.

In the primary sector, growth was forecast at 5.1 percent, and expected to be driven by improvements in mining activity, especially, commercial gold production. However, the agriculture & fisheries subsector was forecast to register lower growth, largely on account of reductions in rubber, cocoa, and crude palm oil outturns. Similarly, growth in the secondary sector was forecast to decrease by more than 50 percent relative to the previous quarter; the decrease was expected to be influenced by beverages production. Notwithstanding, in the tertiary sector, growth was forecast to more than double, from 1.9 percent – reflecting improvements in trade & hotel services and construction activities.

The average headline inflation rose slightly by 0.3 percentage point to 6.9 percent mainly due to a rise in transport fares. However, food prices moderated by 2.2 percentage points to negative 3.3 percent, on account of a reduction in the prices of domestic food items. On the other hand, non-food prices rose by 2.0 percent to 11.9 percent. Official core² inflation also moderated, by 0.8 percentage point to 3.1 percent.

The Bank's monetary policy stance remained focused on price stability via exchange rate stability and liquidity management. The sector remained relatively stable, explained by growths in key balance sheet indicators. All of the key balance sheet indicators of the sector recorded growth. On average, all the interest rates remained unchanged. The spread between the average lending and saving rates was 10.3 percent. The stock of Liberian dollar in circulation decreased by 3.7 percent to L\$21,967.69 million; largely attributed to 35.8 percent reduction in currency in banks. The stock of narrow money supply (M1) grew by 6.8 percent to L\$106,104.40 million. Similarly, broad money supply (M2) also increased, by 5.4 percent to L\$152,280.14 million, as a result of growths in demand deposits, time & savings deposits, and Currency Outside Banks.

The CBL issued US\$24.0 million and L\$6.0 billion treasury bills (T-bill) on behalf of Government of Liberia (GOL) with no issuance of treasury bonds (T-bond). Also, there was no redemption of both T-bill and T-bond during the quarter. The Bank issued L\$13.48 billion CBL bills, reflecting 13.1 percent growth – indicating a continuous public confidence in the appetite for the CBL bills.

² Headline inflation less food and transport

The GOL fiscal operations resulted to a deficit in the overall balance by US\$87.6 million (2.2 percent of GDP), according to preliminary statistics. The realization of the deficit was attributed to a rise in government expenditure amidst a reduction in government revenue during the quarter. Total revenue and expenditure amounted to US\$142.9 million (3.6 percent of GDP) and US\$230.5 million (5.8 percent of GDP), respectively. At end-September 2022, Liberia's stock of public debt totaled 49.0 percent of GDP, reflecting 2.2 percent rise – caused by increases in both domestic and external debts.

Development in the external sector showed subdued performance with an expansion of the deficit in the current account to expand to 4.7 percent of GDP – on account of a worsening trade deficit. The estimated capital account inflows (net) declined to 3.0 percent of GDP, reflecting a decrease in capital transfers. Notwithstanding, there was an increase in direct and other investment inflows resulting to a rise in the net inflows of the financial account to 3.7 percent of GDP. The country's gross international reserve (GIR) slightly decreased by 2.1 percent to 15.1 percent of GDP – reflecting a drawdown in the country's foreign liquid assets, inclusive of Special Drawing Right (SDR) holding. However, the GIR stood at 3.4 months of import cover, which exceeds the regional benchmark of 3.0.

Total merchandise exports decreased by 14.1 percent to US\$264.2 million (6.7 percent of GDP) during the quarter when compare with the previous quarter. The reduction was due to decreases in the export earnings from iron ore, gold, and round logs, amidst increases in diamond, rubber, and other earnings. In contrast, import payments expanded by 20.0 percent to US\$404.1 million (10.3 percent of GDP), on account of increases in payments for all the import categories. The country's major destination of exports remained at Europe (accounting for 70.1 percent), followed by North America (9.2 percent), Asia (4.4 percent), and Africa (3.8 percent). In terms of import sources, Asia accounted for 43.8 percent, followed by Africa (36.5 percent), and Europe (13.6 percent). There was 13.9 percent increase in net inflows of workers' remittance to US\$62.5 million (1.6 percent of GDP) – reflecting a rise in inward remittances.

In terms of exchange rate developments, both the period average exchange rate and the end-of-period exchange rate showed that the Liberian dollar marginally depreciated against the US dollar, by 1.1 percent and 0.6 percent, to L\$153.56/US\$1.00 and L\$152.87/US\$1.00, respectively. The marginal depreciation of the Liberia dollar was largely driven by increased demand for foreign exchange to facilitate import payments.

In outlook terms, real GDP is projected to moderate to 4.3 percent in 2023. Developments in the primary sector (particularly, forestry and mining & panning subsectors), the secondary and tertiary sectors are expected to influence the projected moderation of real GDP in 2023. The average headline inflation is projected to remain in single-digit and is forecast at 9.36 percent for the fourth quarter of 2022 with a symmetric bandwidth of ± 2.0 percent.

I. DEVELOPMENT IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

1.1 Introduction

Following moderation in global economic outturn in the second quarter of 2022, the global economy continued to encounter a series of turbulent challenges during the review period—characterized by tightening financial conditions in many regions, higher than expected inflation in most countries as well as the ongoing Russian-Ukraine crisis. Consequently, growth was forecast to remain unchanged at 3.2 percent in 2022 from the 6.0 percent in 2021, according to the October 2022 edition of the WEO¹. The consistent slowdown in global outturn was attributed to developments in advanced economies and emerging markets as well as developing economies, however, concentrated in the US and European economies.

In advanced economies, growth was projected to moderate to 2.4 percent and growth for emerging markets and developing economies was also expected to decline to 3.7 percent. In terms of outlook, global growth is expected to further retire and lower than the review quarter, by 0.2 percentage point to 2.7 percent in 2023, mainly explained by a tightening monetary policy stance to combat the rise in inflation, the impact of the war in Ukraine as well as the lingering effects of the pandemic-related lockdowns and supply chain disruption.

1.2 The United States (US) Economy

Growth for the United States was revised downward by 0.7 percentage point to 1.6 percent in the third quarter from 2.3 percent forecast in the second quarter of 2022. Comparatively, output growth has significantly declined by 4.4 percentage points relative to 6.0 percent recorded in the corresponding quarter in 2021. The downgrade in the period under review was largely induced by continuous decline in real disposable income rendering consumer demand ineffective and on the other hand, higher interest rates hampered investments. Contingent on the uncertainties in the preceding quarters reflected in continuous decline, growth outlook in the US economy is predicted to further decline and remain mute at 1.0 percent in 2023.

¹ World Economic Outlook

1.3 The Euro Area

In the Euro area, growth was projected at 3.1 percent in the third quarter of 2022, rising slightly by 0.5 percentage point compared with the previous quarter. The expansion in growth reflected the positive spillover on account of the stronger outturn in several euro area economies. On average, growth dynamics were mixed among individual countries. In the United Kingdom, growth was projected at 3.6 percent, representing 0.4 percentage point rise. Though growth outlook is projected to decline by 0.2 percentage point however, due to expected resilience growth may exceed the forecast in the near term on account of expansion in fiscal stimulus package. Growth in Japan was projected to remain static at 1.7 percent in the third quarter of 2022, on account of external factors, such as global inflation pressure from higher energy import prices. The outlook shows that growth in Japan could slightly step down by 0.1 percentage point to 1.6 percent beginning 2023 on account of persistent pressure of global inflation. Growth in Euro Area was largely attributed to Italy and Spain, reflecting a recovery in tourism-related services and industrial production. However, growth is projected to decelerate by 0.7 percentage point to 0.5 percent in 2023.

1.4 Emerging Markets and Developing Economies

Growth in emerging markets and developing economies (EMDEs) slightly revised upward by 0.1 percentage point to 3.7 percent compared to the July 2022 projection. The positive difference in growth projection in EMDEs was largely attributed to Brazil, driven by consumer spending and services sector performances, and Latin America and the Caribbean due to favorable commodity prices, and external financing conditions. The downward pressure in EMDEs growth projection reflected 0.1 and 0.6 percentage point contraction emanating from China and India, respectively. Growth was impeded in the region due to COVID-19-related challenges, strife in the property sector, and external pressure from the Ukraine crisis in China and weaker-than-expected outturn in the second quarter and subdued external demand in India.

1.5 Sub-Saharan Africa

In sub-Saharan Africa, growth was projected to decline by 0.2 percentage point to 3.6 percent in the third quarter of 2022, down from 3.8 percent and 3.7 percent in the preceding quarter of 2022 and the corresponding quarter of 2021, respectively. This outlook reflected lower growth in trade, tighter financial and monetary conditions, and a negative shift in the commodity terms of trade

driven largely by persistent structural constraints faced by the region's two largest economies: Nigeria, and South Africa. Growths in both Nigeria and South Africa were projected to decline by 0.2 percentage point to 3.2 percent and 2.1 percent, respectively. The slowdown in growth for Nigeria was attributed to low output in oil production, rising insecurity, and elevated Inflation while the weakening in growth performance in South Africa is due to high inflation and climate related trade restriction. (WEO October 2022). Moreover, the growth outlook for sub-Saharan Africa remains virtually gloomy and uncertain due to elevated commodity prices with adversity on real incomes, demand, and economic activity. In 2023, the outlook for Sub-Saharan Africa is projected to further decline by 0.3 percentage point to 3.7 percent, largely reflecting tighter financial and monetary conditions, and a negative shift in the commodity terms of trade.

1.6 Global Inflation

Global headline inflation continued to rise mainly owing to extremely elevated energy and food commodity prices as well as supply shortages, and tight labor markets. Globally, inflationary pressure was projected to increase by 0.5 percentage point to 8.8 percent widely pronounced in advanced economies and with high variability in emerging markets and developing economies. The rise in global inflation was attributed to 0.6 percentage point increase to 7.2 percent in advanced economies and 0.4 percentage point increase to 9.9 percent in emerging markets and developing economies. However, from the outlook, headline inflation is expected to decline to 6.5 percent in 2023, largely reflecting a sharp decline in energy and food prices as a result of negative base effects and an expected decline in commodity prices, in line with future prices. On the other hand, inflation, excluding energy and food (core inflation), remained at an unprecedentedly high from the inception of the review quarter of 2022 (WEO October 2022).

Table 1.1: Selected Global Output, 2021-2023

	Estimate	Projections		Difference from Jul 2022 WEO Update	
	2021	2022	2023	2022	2023
World Output	6.0	3.2	2.7	0.0	-0.2
Advanced Economies	5.2	2.4	1.1	-0.1	-0.3
United States	5.7	1.6	1.0	-0.7	0.0
Euro Area	5.2	3.1	0.5	0.5	-0.7
Japan	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	-0.1
United Kingdom	7.4	3.6	0.3	0.4	-0.2
Canada	4.5	3.3	1.5	-0.1	-0.3
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	6.6	3.7	3.7	0.1	-0.2
Emerging and Developing Asia	7.2	4.4	4.9	-0.2	-0.1
China	8.1	3.2	4.4	-0.1	-0.2
India	8.7	6.8	6.1	-0.6	0.0
Latin America and the Caribbean	6.9	3.5	1.7	0.5	-0.3
Brazil	4.6	2.8	1.0	1.1	-0.1
Middle East and Central Asia	4.5	5.0	3.6	0.2	0.1
Sub-Saharan Africa	4.7	3.6	3.7	-0.2	-0.3
Nigeria	3.6	3.2	3.0	-0.2	-0.2
South Africa	4.9	2.1	1.1	-0.2	-0.3
World Consumer Prices	4.7	8.8	6.5	0.5	0.8
Advanced Economies	3.1	7.2	4.4	0.6	1.1
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	5.9	9.9	8.1	0.4	0.8

Source: "International Monetary Fund. October 2022. World Economic Outlook Update: Gloomy and More Uncertain. Washington, DC."

II. DOMESTIC ECONOMY

2.1 Introduction

Real GDP growth, which was earlier projected to grow at 3.7 percent, was revised upward to an estimated growth of 4.8 percent for the year 2022, down from the 5.0 percent in 2021. The upward revision reflected additional improvements in economic activity in the mining & panning sub-sector and services sector.

In the primary sector (agriculture, forestry and mining and panning), growth was expected to be driven by continued expansion in mining, especially commercial gold production. The sector was projected to expand by 5.1 percent in 2022 (revised from 4.4 percent), down from the 7.2 percent estimated for 2021 mainly attributed to the expected decline in the agriculture & fisheries subsector. The agriculture & fisheries subsector was expected to record lower growth mainly on account of decreases in rubber, cocoa, and crude palm oil production. Rubber volume, for example, decreased by 11.6 percent to 16,613 metric tons, from 18,800 metric tons in the second quarter of 2022. In terms of sectoral analysis, output in the mining and panning subsector was expected to expand by 14.0 percent in 2022 (revised from 7.1 percent), compared to 17.6 percent in 2021. Agriculture and fisheries subsector was expected to moderate to 1.2 percent in 2022 (revised from 3.6 percent), from 4.0 percent in 2021, due to reduction in rubber, cocoa, and crude palm oil production, while the forestry subsector was projected to expand to 1.6 percent (revised from 2.1 percent), from 1.0 percent in 2021, due to slight increase in logs and timber production.

The secondary sector (manufacturing) was expected to moderate to 2.2 percent in 2022 (from a revised 3.6 percent), from 4.7 percent estimated for 2021, on account of projected decrease in beverages output. Activities in the tertiary sector was expected to expand further to 4.8 percent from a previous level of 2.7 percent in 2022 (from a 1.9 percent level in 2021). The projected improved performance of the sector was mainly reflective of increases in services, emanating from construction and trade & hotels.

In terms of outlook, real GDP growth for 2023 is projected at 4.3 percent (from a revised 4.7 percent), reflecting mainly rising growths in all major sectors except the mining & panning sub-sector that is expected to moderate. The key risks to growth, however, include low prices of exportable commodities, high prices of fuel and food, supply chain disruption evolving from the

Russia-Ukraine conflict and unanticipated resurgence in the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 2.1: Real Sector Outlook (2019-2023)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Real GDP	(2.5)	(3.0)	5.0	4.8	4.3
Agriculture & fisheries	2.2	6.4	4.0	1.2	3.3
Forestry	(7.5)	4.6	1.0	1.6	1.2
Mining & panning	13.2	2.0	17.6	14.0	4.6
Manufacturing	(10.5)	0.0	4.7	2.2	4.9
Services	(7.5)	(12.7)	1.9	4.8	5.7

Sources: IMF & Liberian Authorities

2.2 Sectorial Review

2.2.1 Agriculture and Forestry

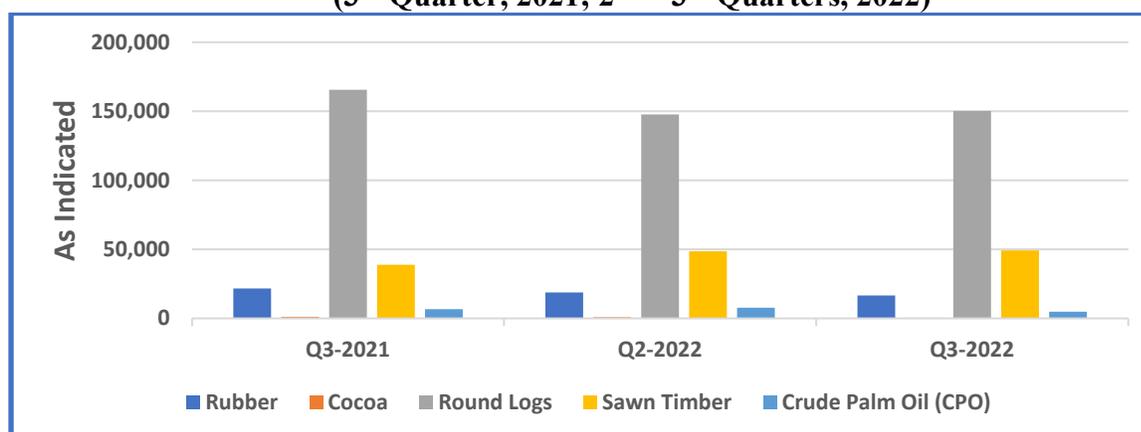
**Table 2.2: Key Agricultural Production
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**

Commodity	Unit	Q ³ -2021	Q ² -2022	Q ³ -2022
Rubber	Mt	21,582	18,800	16,613
Cocoa	Mt	1,171	869	425
Round Logs	M3	165,508	147,619	150,202*
Sawn Timber	Pcs	38,736	48,626	49,210*
Crude Palm Oil (CPO)	Mt	6,685	7,689	4,816

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MOCI); Liberia Produce & Marketing Corporation (LPMC); Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

* Projections

**Chart 2.1: Key Agricultural Production
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**



Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MOCI); Liberia Agricultural Commodities Regulatory Authority (LACRA); Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

a. Rubber

Output of rubber in the third quarter of 2022 declined by 11.0 percent to 16,613 metric tons, from 18,800 metric tons produced during the previous quarter largely induced by lower production from the largest producing entity. Also, production in the reported quarter fell by 23.0 percent compared to the corresponding period in 2021.

b. Cocoa

Cocoa output for the quarter decreased by 51.1 percent to 425 metric tons, from 869 metric tons produced in the preceding quarter mainly on account of unfavorable harvest. Compared with the corresponding period a year ago, output also fell by 63.7 percent.

c. Sawn Timber

Sawn timber production during the quarter increased by 1.2 percent to an estimated 49,210 pieces, up from 48,626 pieces reported for the previous quarter. The rise in output was mainly due to high demand for the commodity. Relative to the quarter ended September 2021, output in the quarter under review increased by 27.0 percent.

d. Round Logs

Total production of round logs during the quarter rose by an estimated 1.8 percent, from 147,619 cubic meters recorded during the previous quarter. The increase in output was mainly attributed to high demand of the commodity. On an annualized basis, output fell by 9.2 percent.

e. Crude Palm Oil (CPO)

Output of crude palm oil (CPO) for the quarter decreased by 37.4 percent to 4,816 metric tons, from 7,689 metric tons produced a quarter ago on account of reduction in output from the largest producer of the commodity. Compared with the production recorded in the same quarter a year ago, CPO production declined by 28.0 percent.

2.2.2 Industrial Production

2.2.2.1 Mining (Gold, Diamond, and Iron Ore)

i. Gold

Gold production during the quarter decreased by 7.9 percent to 85,204 ounces, from 92,476 ounces recorded in the previous quarter on account of decreased mining activity. Compared

with the corresponding period of 2021, output increased by 70.4 percent.

ii. Diamond

The output of diamond during the quarter fell by 27.0 percent to 9,049 carats, from 12,391 carats reported in the previous quarter on account of decreased mining activity. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 2021, output fell by 36.2 percent.

iii. Iron Ore

During the quarter, the output of iron ore fell by 19.2 percent to 1,050,000 metric tons, from 1,300,000 metric tons produced in the previous quarter. Also, compared with the corresponding period in 2021, output decreased by 3.7 percent.

The declines recorded in the outputs of diamond, gold and iron ore were largely on account of unfavorable weather condition.

2.2.2.2 Manufacturing

i. Cement

Cement produced during the quarter was 86,218 metric tons, down from 149,463 metric tons reported during the previous quarter, reflecting a decline of 42.3 percent mainly on account of decreased construction activity due to the rainy season as well as the entry of other new cement producing companies in the market, the data of which are yet to be captured by the CBL. When annualized, production fell by 27.7 percent.

ii. Beverages

Output of beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) fell by 19.7 percent to 3.51 million liters, down from 4.37 million liters produced during the previous quarter largely due to decrease in demand. On an annualized basis, beverage output declined by 13.4 percent. A disaggregation of total beverage produced for the quarter ended September 2022 showed that the contribution of alcoholic beverages was 89.9 percent, while non-alcoholic beverages accounted for 10.1 percent.

iii. Soap

Soap production for the quarter declined by 18.7 percent to 57,167 kilograms, from 70,356 kilograms reported in the preceding quarter on account of decreased demand for the

commodity. In addition, on a year-on-year basis, soap production declined by 30.9 percent at end-September 2022 compared with the corresponding quarter in 2021.

iv. Paint (Oil and Water)

Total paint production (oil and water paints) during quarter three of 2022, increased to 52,659 gallons, from 42,841 gallons produced during the previous quarter due mainly to high demand. On a disaggregated basis, oil paint accounted for 58.4 percent, while water paint contributed 41.6 percent of the total paint produced. Similarly, compared with the same period a year ago, output rose by 44.5 percent.

v. Varnish

The volume of varnish produced during the quarter was 3,358 gallons, up by 24.0 percent a quarter ago on account of higher demand of the commodity. Compared to the same period in 2021, output decreased by 64.0 percent.

vi. Manoline Hair Grease

Production of manoline hair grease rose in the quarter by 16.7 percent to 5,116 kilograms, from 4,385 kilograms produced during the preceding quarter mainly due to high demand for the commodity. Similarly, on an annualized basis, output during the quarter rose by 90.3 percent when compare with the 3rd quarter of 2021.

vii. Thinner

Total production of thinner at end-September 2022 stood at 2,114 gallons, reflecting a decrease of 21.9 percent relative to the previous quarter on account of lower demand of the commodity. Similarly, on a year-on-year basis, output decreased by 67.2 percent in the current quarter, compared with the corresponding quarter of 2021.

viii. Rubbing Alcohol

The quantity of rubbing alcohol produced in the reporting quarter stood at 47,868 liters, 17,035 liters lower than the output of the previous quarter. The decline in output was occasioned by decreased demand for the commodity. On an annual basis, output in the quarter rose by 6.7 percent compared with the third quarter of 2021.

ix. Chlorox

Chlorox output declined to 204,038 litres for the quarter ended September 2022, from 214,980 litres produced a quarter ago, reflecting 5.1 percent reduction in output driven by lower demand. However, on a year-on-year basis, output in the quarter under review rose by 23.5 percent compared with the same quarter a year ago.

x. Candle

Total candle output during the quarter stood at 9,219 kilograms, from 10,794 kilograms produced in the preceding quarter, reflecting 14.6 percent decline due largely to contraction in demand. However, year-on-year comparisons showed that production rose by 10.3 percent compare with the corresponding quarter of 2021.

xi. Mattresses

Mattresses produced during the third quarter of 2022 fell by 20.8 percent to 27,733 pieces, from 35,031 pieces produced at the end of the second quarter of 2022 on account of lower demand. Compared with the same period a year ago, production declined by 15.0 percent.

xii. Finished Water

Total output of finished water during the review quarter rose by 10.6 percent to an estimated 213.47 million gallons, compared to the output recorded in the preceding quarter. The estimated rise in output was largely due to increase in the running hours of pumps. Compared to the same period in 2021, output declined by 34.0 percent.

xiii. Mineral Water

The total volume of mineral water produced during the quarter stood at 44,415 litres, down from 62,985 litres recorded during the previous quarter, representing 29.5 percent reduction in output. The decline in water production was mainly attributed to fall in demand due mainly to the rainy season. Compared to the corresponding period in 2021, production declined by 55.5 percent.

**Table 2.3: Key Industrial Output
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**

Commodity	Unit	Q³-2021	Q²-2022	Q³-2022
Gold	Ounce	49,990	92,476	85,204
Diamond	Carat	14,189	12,391	9,049
Iron Ore	Mt.	1,090,000	1,300,000	1,050,000
Cement	Mt.	119,186	149,463	86,218
Spirits	Litre	54,947	35,183	24,840
Beer	Litre	1,629,591	1,901,253	1,389,884
Stout	Litre	1,955,860	1,960,762	1,740,998
Malta	Litre	191,783	219,447	122,332
Soft Drinks	Litre	218,568	253,860	231,898
Oil Paint	Gal.	22,259	26,513	30,750
Water Paint	Gal.	14,183	16,328	21,909
Varnish	Gal.	9,326	2,709	3,358
Manoline H. Grease	Kg	2,688	4,385	5,116
Thinner	Gal	6,447	2,708	2,114
Rubbing Alcohol	Litre	44,857	64,903	47,868
Soap	Kg	82,744	70,356	57,167
Chlorox	Litre	165,276	214,980	204,038
Candle	Kg	8,358	10,794	9,219
Mattresses	Pcs.	32,614	35,031	27,733
Finished water	Gal.	323,589,758	193,073,928	213,474,456*
Mineral Water	Litre	99,712	62,985	44,415
Electricity	kW	67,172,800	49,509,979	84,116,470

*Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MOCI); Ministry of Lands, Mines & Energy; Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation
Projections

2.3 Consumption of Petroleum Product

Total consumption of petroleum products, Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) and Diesel or Automotive Gas Oil (AGO), increased to 10.76 million gallons, from 8.89 million gallons consumed during the previous quarter. The rise in the consumption of petroleum products was largely attributed to higher demand in Liberia during the quarter. Compared to the corresponding period in 2021, total petroleum consumption decreased by 17.4 percent. Disaggregation of total consumption of petroleum products showed that PMS constituted 53.1 percent, while AGO accounted for the remaining 46.9 percent.

**Table 2.4: Consumption of Petroleum Products
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**

Commodity	Unit	Q ³ -2021	Q ² -2022	Q ³ -2022
Premium Motor Spirit (PMS)	Gal.	7,218,832	4,495,589	5,719,455
Diesel (AGO)	Gal.	5,810,095	4,393,989	5,045,435
Total	Gal.	13,028,927	8,889,578	10,764,890

Source: Liberia Petroleum Refining Company (LPRC)

**Chart 2.2: Consumption of Petroleum Products
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**



Source: Liberian Petroleum Refining Company

2.4 Seaport Developments

Statistics on vessels traffic for the third quarter of 2022 showed that 101 vessels with combined Summer Dead Weight Tons (SDWT) of 2.98 million docked at various ports along the Liberian coast, representing 1.0 percent increase in the number of vessels anchored compared with the

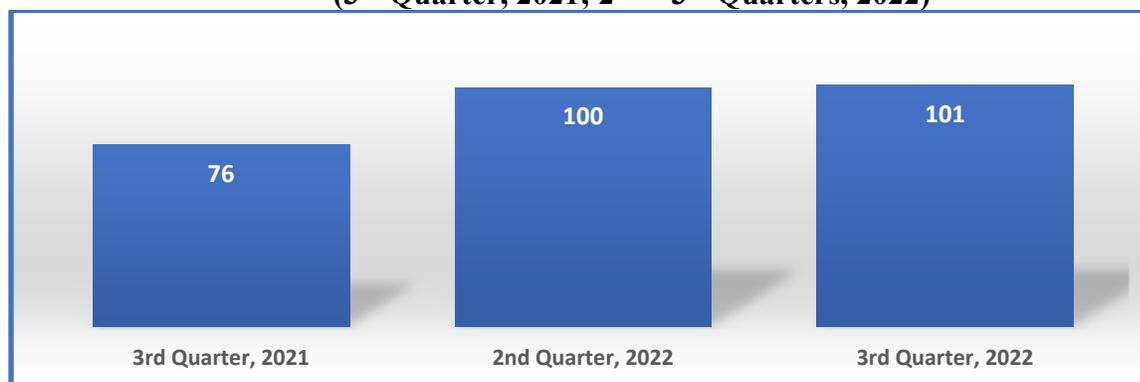
previous quarter. The slight rise in turnout of vessels during the review quarter was largely explained by the increase in activity at the Port of Monrovia. In terms of percentage distribution, vessels anchored in Monrovia, Buchanan, and Greenville accounted for 60.4 percent, 32.7 percent, and 6.9 percent, respectively. Compared with the corresponding period a year ago, the number of vessels docked on the shore of Liberia increased by 25. Disaggregation of total cargo tonnage showed that imports accounted for 76.9 percent, while exports constituted 23.1 percent (Table 2.4).

**Table 2.5: Vessel Traffic and Cargo Movements
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**

Quarter	No. of Vessels	Vessel Weight (SDWT)	Cargo Tonnage (In Metric Tons)		
			Imports	Exports	Total
Q ³ -2021	76	2,615,437	1,208,021	957,034	2,165,055
Q ² -2022	100	2,258,516	654,400	1,056,019	1,710,419
Q ³ -2022	101	2,978,455	4,428,365	1,330,736	5,759,101

Source: National Port Authority (NPA) SDWT=Summer Dead Weight Tons

**Chart 2.3: Vessel Traffic
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**



Source: National Port Authority (NPA) SDWL= Summer Dead Weight Tons

2.5 Electric Power Developments

Electric power produced by the national power generating facilities² during the review quarter increased to 84.12 million kilowatts, up from 49.51 million kilowatts produced in the previous quarter, representing an increase of 69.9 percent. The rise in electric power generation was mainly on account of higher generation from the major power producing source as a result of the peak of the

² Mount Coffee Hydro, the Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) Generators, and the High-Speed Diesel (HSD) generators.

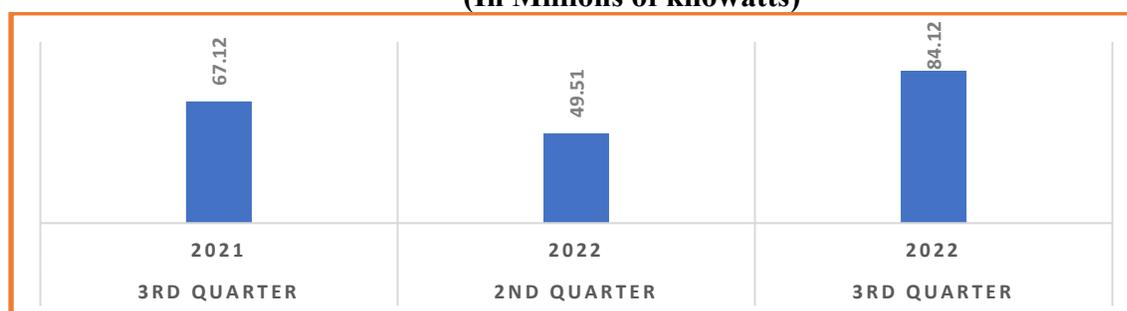
rainy season as well as the repair of one of the turbines during the quarter. Similarly, on a year- on-year basis, electric power generation rose by 25.2 percent.

**Table 2.6: Electric Power Developments
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Kilowatts)**

	Unit	Service	Generation
Q ³ - 2021	kW	Electricity	67,172,800
Q ² -2022	kW	Electricity	49,509,979
Q ³ -2022	kW	Electricity	84,116,470

Source: Liberia Electricity Corporation

**Chart 2.4: Electricity Generation
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of kilowatts)**



Source: Liberia Electricity Corporation

2.6 Price Developments

2.6.1 Domestic Price Developments

Average headline inflation³, during the quarter, increased slightly to 6.9 percent from 6.3 percent reported in the previous quarter. The slight increase in headline inflation during the quarter was largely on account of rise in the transport fares during the quarter. Compared with the corresponding quarter in 2021, inflation during the quarter remained unchanged, from 6.9 percent in the third quarter of 2022 (Chart 2.6).

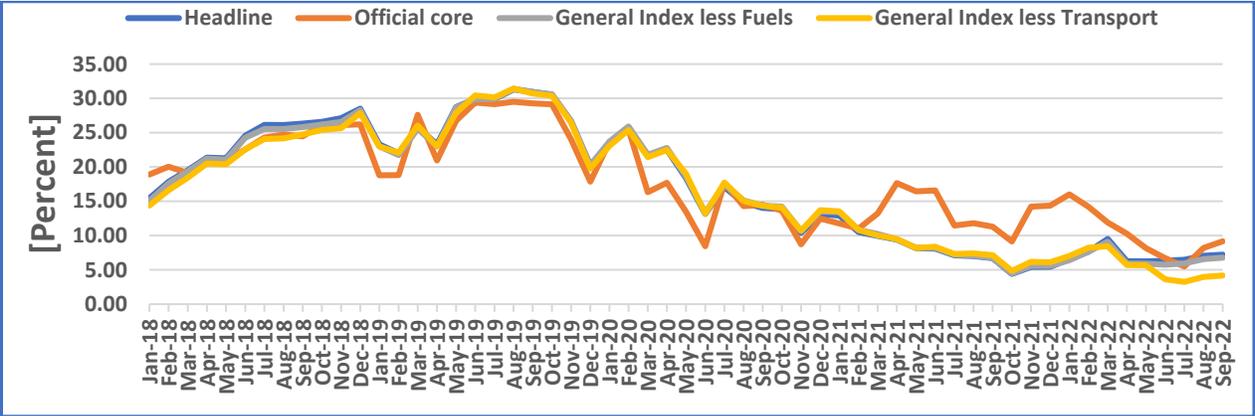
Food inflation during the quarter moderated to negative 3.3 percent, from negative 1.1 percent in the previous quarter. The moderation in food inflation for the quarter was mainly reflective of the

³ The results from the 2016 Household Income Expenditure Survey (HIES) were used to update the weights in the CPI basket in December 2018 which reflect the current consumption pattern of the average Liberians.

decrease in the prices of domestic food items, especially fruits and vegetables (Chart 2.7, Table 2.7). Non-food inflation increased by 2.0 percent, from 9.9 percent recorded during the quarter ended June 2022. The rise in non-food inflation was largely due to the hike in the prices relating to the transport subgroup as a result of an increase in imported fuel items.

Official core inflation moderated by 0.8 percentage point from the preceding quarter and 3.9 percentage points from the corresponding quarter a year ago. The moderation in official core inflation was mainly explained by the marginal depreciation of the Liberian dollars against the United States dollars (chart 2.6).

Chart 2.5: Headline and Core Inflations



Source: CBL & LISGIS

2.6.2 Inflation by Group

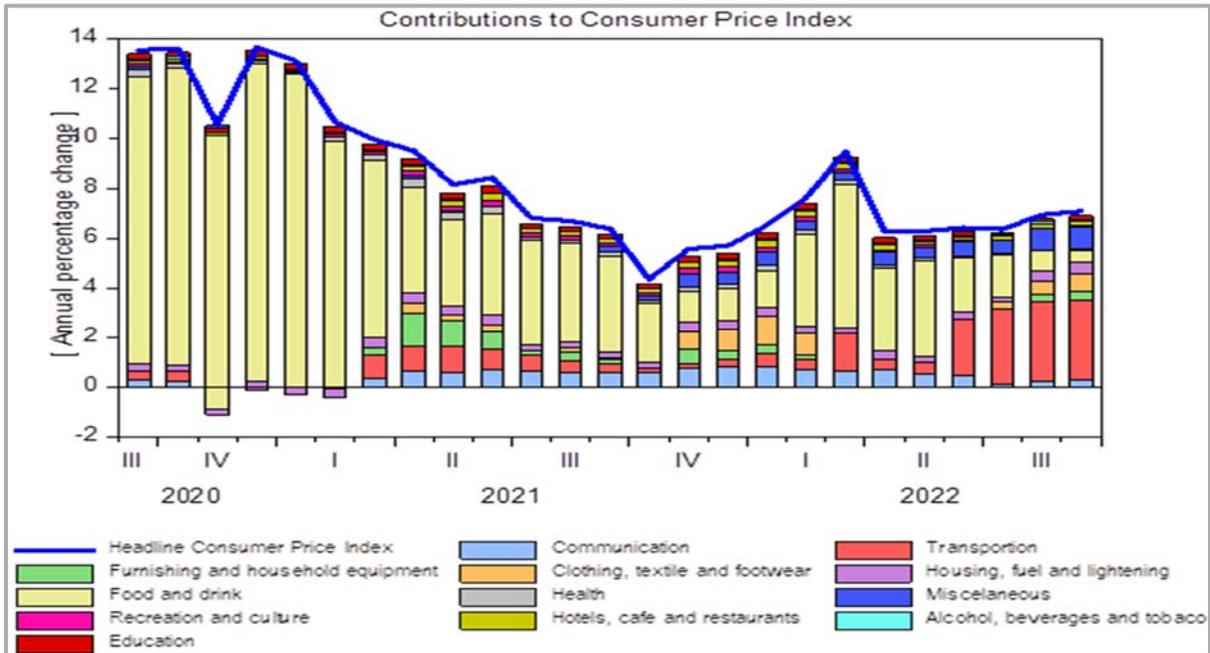
Developments in the sub-groups of the consumer basket during the third quarter of 2022 were mixed. The sub-groups that recorded increases were clothing & footwear; furnishings, household equipment & routine household maintenance; alcoholic beverages, tobacco & narcotics; housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels; restaurants & hotels; miscellaneous goods & services; and transport. Components, which showed decreases, were food & non-alcoholic beverages; communication; health; recreation & culture and education; (Table 2.7 & 2.9).

2.6.2.1 Contributions to Changes in CPI (%)

The disaggregated consumer price index (CPI) basket at the end of September 2022 indicated that the following major groups substantially contributed to the slight increase in inflation: transport; restaurants & hotels; alcoholic beverages, tobacco & narcotics; and clothing & footwear. Similarly,

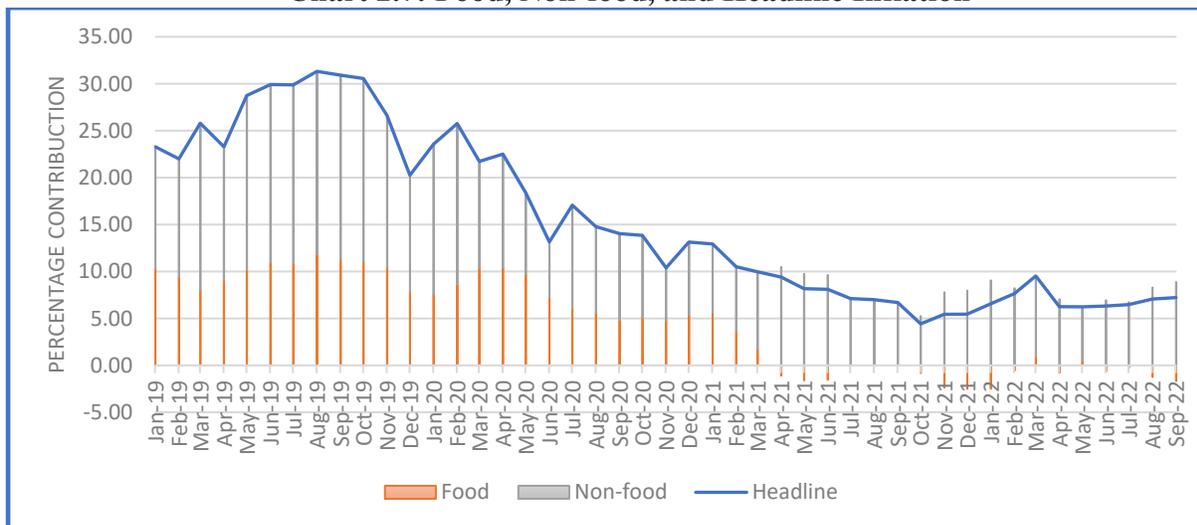
the disaggregated CPI basket in terms of food and non-food items showed that food inflation had a contribution of negative 1.1 percentage point, while non-food inflation contributed 8.0 percentage points to the 6.9 percent general rate of inflation recorded at the end of the third quarter of 2022 (Charts 2.7 & 2.8).

Chart 2.6: Contributions to CPI



Source: CBL & LISGIS, Monrovia, Liberia

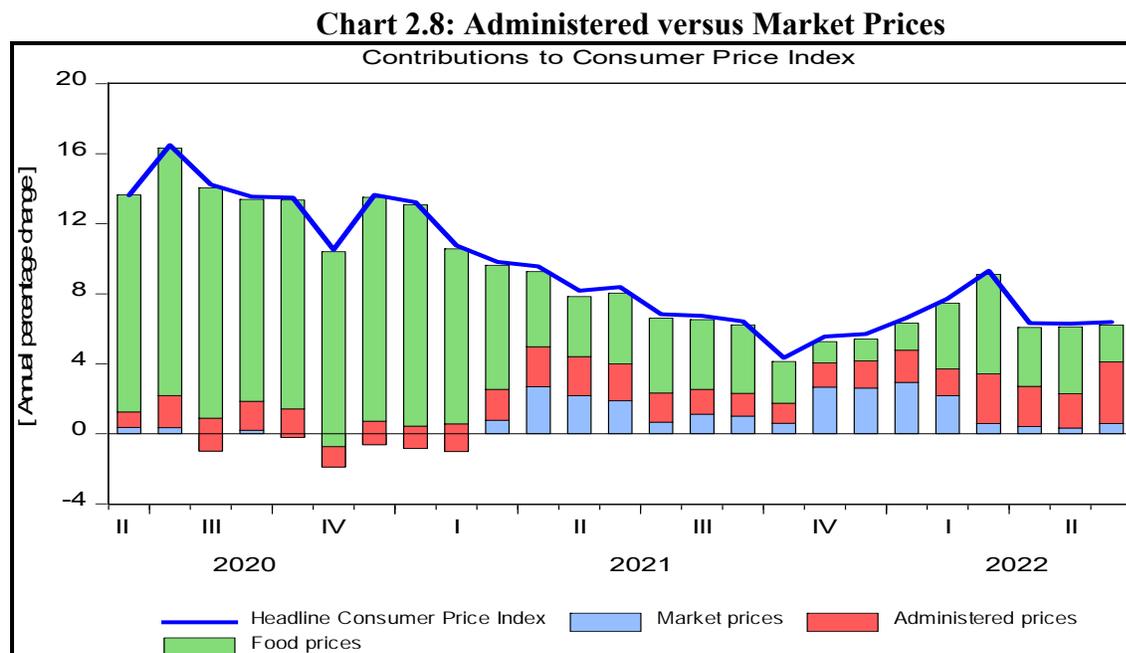
Chart 2.7: Food, Non-food, and Headline Inflation



Source: CBL & LISGIS, Monrovia, Liberia

2.6.2.2 Administered, Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Market Prices

An analytical review of the CPI basket showed that market prices contributed 6.0 percentage points to the general rate of inflation, while administered⁴ prices accounted for the remaining 0.9 percentage point.



Source: CBL, Monrovia-Liberia

2.6.2.3 Inflation Outlook

Headline inflation for the fourth quarter of 2022 is projected to increase to 9.36 percent with a symmetric bandwidth of +/- 2.0 percent. However, sustaining this single-digit inflation in the medium term will depend mainly on the level of policy coordination between the monetary and fiscal authorities, the effectiveness of the monetary policy instruments as well as the dynamics of international and domestic prices of commodities, especially food and fuel. Critical to the direction of inflation in the short to medium terms is the direction of Government tax policies on key commodities (especially food inputs and petroleum products) and the exchange rate movements.

⁴ Administered prices refer to the prices that do not vary in response to short-run fluctuations in demand and supply conditions. Rather, they are set either directly or indirectly by government.

Table 2.7: Headline and Quarterly changes in CPI (%)

	Headline Inflation (Y-on-Y changes)			Monthly Changes in HCPI (%)			
	Combined	Food	Non-Food	Combined	Food	Non-Food	
2018	January	15.50	8.00	20.00	2.40	3.70	1.70
	February	17.80	11.60	21.50	0.60	-0.70	1.20
	March	19.40	17.40	20.70	2.10	3.80	1.10
	April	21.40	20.10	22.10	1.40	1.70	1.30
	May	21.30	19.60	22.20	1.10	0.90	1.20
	June	24.50	22.40	25.80	5.80	4.90	6.30
	July	26.10	23.70	27.50	3.50	2.70	4.00
	August	26.10	23.30	27.70	2.20	2.40	2.00
	September	26.30	25.20	26.90	1.40	2.50	0.70
	October	26.60	24.20	27.90	0.70	-0.40	1.30
	November	27.10	24.90	28.30	2.00	1.80	2.10
	December	28.50	30.50	27.50	2.40	3.80	1.60
2019	January	23.30	30.20	19.72	-1.80	3.40	-4.50
	February	22.00	27.60	19.09	-0.50	-2.60	0.90
	March	25.80	23.40	27.03	5.30	0.40	7.90
	April	23.29	26.50	21.63	-0.59	4.25	-3.03
	May	28.74	29.86	28.17	5.58	3.60	6.66
	June	29.91	32.20	28.71	6.72	6.74	6.71
	July	29.87	31.76	28.85	3.51	2.36	4.11
	August	31.32	34.59	29.60	3.30	4.57	2.64
	September	30.90	33.18	29.72	1.05	1.43	0.84
	October	30.55	32.38	29.56	0.43	-1.02	1.20
	November	26.62	30.51	24.59	-1.10	0.34	-1.85
	December	20.25	23.04	18.81	-2.76	-2.13	-3.09
2020	January	23.56	22.18	24.33	0.93	2.73	-0.03
	February	25.76	25.26	26.02	1.28	-0.17	2.08
	March	21.72	30.48	17.31	1.88	4.59	0.42
	April	22.51	30.24	18.33	0.05	4.05	-2.19
	May	18.36	28.24	13.17	2.01	2.01	2.00
	June	13.14	21.08	8.96	2.00	0.75	2.74
	July	17.06	17.84	16.66	7.10	-0.38	11.47
	August	14.77	16.25	13.99	1.27	3.16	0.29
	September	14.03	14.09	14.00	0.39	-0.46	0.85
	October	13.85	14.85	13.33	0.27	-0.36	0.61
	November	10.39	13.96	8.50	-4.10	-0.44	-6.03
	December	13.12	15.74	11.72	-0.36	-0.60	-0.22
2021	January	12.92	16.31	11.06	0.75	3.23	-0.62
	February	10.50	10.48	10.51	-0.88	-5.16	1.58

March	9.96	5.01	12.73	1.38	-0.59	2.43	
April	9.41	-2.53	16.52	-0.45	-3.42	1.10	
May	8.16	-4.04	15.43	0.86	0.47	1.05	
June	8.10	-3.95	15.15	1.94	0.84	2.49	
July	7.12	0.21	10.73	6.13	3.94	7.20	
August	7.00	0.10	10.71	1.16	3.04	0.28	
September	6.69	0.18	10.14	0.10	-0.37	0.33	
October	4.42	-2.39	8.00	-1.85	-2.87	-1.35	
November	5.44	-6.58	12.12	-3.17	-4.71	-2.44	
December	5.46	-7.05	12.40	-0.33	-1.10	0.02	
<hr/>							
2022	January	6.55	-6.79	14.24	1.80	3.51	1.01
	February	7.64	-1.57	12.60	0.13	0.15	0.12
	March	9.51	2.58	13.13	3.14	3.59	2.92
	April	6.26	-2.39	10.57	-3.41	-8.10	-1.19
	May	6.23	1.17	8.74	0.83	4.14	-0.62
	June	6.32	-1.98	10.37	2.03	-2.31	4.02
	July	6.48	-0.98	10.01	6.28	5.00	6.84
	August	7.06	-3.85	12.36	1.71	0.06	2.42
	September	7.21	-5.12	13.19	0.25	-1.74	1.07

Source: CBL & LISGIS, Monrovia, Liberia

**Table 2.8: Inflation by Sub-group
Year-on-Year Changes in CPI
(2020-2022)**

Food	Weights	Inflation Rates			
		2021Q ²	2021Q ³	2022Q ²	2022Q ³
Bread and cereals	10.06	-12.32	-15.80	2.26	3.44
Milk, cheese and eggs	0.68	-4.71	-6.29	-0.41	3.57
Meat	4.82	-0.39	-5.96	-2.53	-0.40
Non-Food					
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	0.65	-8.99	-9.95	0.10	8.10
Clothing and footwear	5.21	-7.61	-7.66	-10.37	-0.95
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other fuels	7.22	0.44	-0.17	4.53	11.25
Furnishing, H/Hold Equip., Routine Maintenance of House	5.21	7.92	0.15	-10.94	-2.67
Health	9.28	40.59	15.46	7.85	-4.22
Transport	7.53	7.07	2.74	21.95	48.23
Communication	3.86	-8.00	5.37	4.66	-9.64
Recreation and Culture	1.03	2.43	4.38	-1.17	-4.80
Education	4.83	33.06	21.68	23.19	6.07
Restaurant and Hotels	17.12	32.03	24.99	16.41	20.44
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	3.98	-12.60	-8.48	2.96	11.79

Source: CBL & LISGIS, Monrovia, Liberia

Table 2.9: Harmonized Consumer Price Index (HCPI) By Major Groups
Year-on-Year Rates of Inflation
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(December, 2005=100)

FUNCTIONS	WEIGHTS	21- Jul	21- Aug	21- Sep	Q ³ - 2021	22- Apr	22- May	22- Jun	Q ² - 2022	22- Jul	22- Aug	22- Sep	Q ³ - 2022
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	34.08	0.21	0.10	0.14	0.15	-2.39	1.17	-1.98	-1.07	-0.98	-3.85	-5.12	-3.32
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO, AND NARCOTICS	0.65	-	-	-	-9.95	-0.04	-0.55	0.89	0.10	4.57	10.16	9.59	8.10
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	5.21	-	-	-	-7.66	-	-	-	-	-1.51	-1.27	-0.07	-0.95
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	7.22	-0.58	0.30	-0.22	-0.17	3.57	3.08	6.93	4.53	4.51	14.90	14.33	11.25
FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD, EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE MAINTENANCE OF THE HOUSE	5.21	-	-	-	0.15	-	-	-	-	-8.42	0.21	0.20	-2.67
HEALTH	9.28	2.64	0.16	-2.34	15.46	-8.30	12.54	11.99	-10.94	-4.52	-4.99	-3.14	-4.22
TRANSPORT	7.53	15.18	15.63	15.57	2.74	11.68	7.13	4.73	7.85	48.71	48.09	47.89	48.23
COMMUNICATION	3.86	4.88	2.17	1.16	5.37	12.95	13.38	39.52	21.95	-9.45	-	-9.43	-9.64
RECREATION AND CULTURE	1.03	5.35	5.40	5.36	4.38	4.84	6.19	2.95	4.66	10.04	-	-	-
EDUCATION	4.83	3.67	4.68	4.77	21.68	-1.82	1.03	-2.71	-1.17	-2.67	-5.93	-5.79	-4.80
RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	17.12	21.83	21.63	21.59	21.68	23.19	23.19	23.19	23.19	6.07	6.03	6.11	6.07
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	3.89	25.84	25.53	23.61	24.99	21.66	16.18	11.39	16.41	18.40	20.56	22.35	20.44
GENERAL RATE OF INFLATION	100	-	-	-	-8.48	-0.28	2.93	6.22	2.96	7.87	14.44	13.06	11.79
		7.12	7.00	6.69	6.94	6.26	6.23	6.32	6.27	6.48	7.06	7.23	6.92

Source: CBL & LISGIS, Monrovia, Liberia

III. MONETARY DEVELOPMENTS

3.1 Monetary Policy Stance (MPS)

The Monetary Policy stance of the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) during the third quarter of 2022 was primarily focused on liquidity management with the aim of smoothing out volatility in the domestic price level via broad exchange rate stability. As such, the CBL's monetary policy stance anchored mainly on the use of CBL's policy instruments, including the CBL bills and Required Reserve Ratio (RRR) of the commercial banks.

3.2 Banking Sector Development

The banking sector continued to be relatively sound and stable, evidenced by expansions in most of its primary balance sheet indicators for the review quarter. All balance sheet indicators, including total capital, liquidity, total assets, total deposits, profitability, and total loans & advances grew compared with the previous quarter. When matched with the corresponding quarter a year ago, total capital declined, while total assets, liquidity, deposits, and loans & advances grew. Profitability in the banking industry recorded a growth compared with the corresponding quarter of 2021.

3.2.1 Capital

At end-September 2022, the banking industry recorded a total capital stock of L\$30.54 billion, thereby expanding by 7.2 percent, from L\$28.49 billion recorded for the previous quarter. The quarterly expansion was mainly on account of the 57.1 percent growth in the current year income of the banking industry. At end-September 2022, all commercial banks in the industry reported Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) above the 10.0 percent minimum regulatory threshold. The industry CAR, during the quarter, was 34.0 percent, representing 48 basis points above the CAR reported in the preceding quarter. When matched against the amount recorded at end-September 2021, the CAR of the industry for the reporting quarter was 1.4 percentage point higher.

3.2.2 Asset and Liquidity

Commercial banks assets reported at end-September 2022 stood at L\$207.60 billion, representing 6.9 percent rise from the L\$194.18 billion reported in the second quarter of 2022 due primarily to

increases recorded in balances with the CBL, bonds, and other assets. Similarly, total liquid assets of the industry increased by 13.2 percent to L\$79.03 billion, from L\$69.80 billion recorded at end-June 2022 on account of increases reported in current account at the CBL, current account balances with other local banks, and placement with foreign banks. However, the industry liquidity ratio rose by 1.7 percentage point to 41.6 percent at end-September 2022 compared with the quarter ended June 2022.

At end-September 2022, the banking industry reported growth in loans & advances by 5.9 percent to L\$79.74 billion, from L\$75.33 billion recorded for the quarter ended June 2022. When matched against the amount recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2021, total loans & advances for the review quarter grew slightly by 1.2 percent, from L\$78.84 billion.

Non-performing loans (NPLs), as a share of the total stock of loans & advances in the reporting quarter, fell marginally by 0.6 percentage point to 23.2 percent (L\$18.50 billion) from 22.6 percent recorded at end-June 2022 and remained above the 10.0 percent tolerable limit for the reporting quarter. Compared with the quarter ended June 2022, the volume of NPL expanded during the review quarter. The growth in the volume of NPL was reflective of structural constraint in the economy fueled primarily by Russia-Ukraine crisis amidst the lingering effects of the global health crisis. With respect to the corresponding period a year ago, the NPLs ratio declined from 23.9 percent.

3.2.3 Profitability

The banking industry's gross operational income⁵, at end-June 2022, stood at L\$13.41 billion, with interest income constituting 48.8 percent and non-interest income representing 51.2 percent. The cumulative gross operating income as at end-June 2022 was L\$9.18 billion. The gross operational income fell by 9.2 percent compared with the amount recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2021, largely triggered by the declines recorded in income generated from security and foreign exchange by 43.1 percent and 70.5 percent, respectively.

⁵ The main revenue sources are classified as interest and non-interest income, which include income from loans & advances, service charges on deposits, commissions, and fees on money transfer as well as foreign exchange transactions.

Gross cumulative operating expense for the quarter ended September 2022 amounted to L\$8.68 billion, reflecting an increase by 54.4 percent when matched against the amount recorded at end-June 2022, but declined by 4.8 percent compared with the same period a year ago. The cumulative operating expenses as at end-September 2021 was L\$9.12 billion. The annual decrease in operating expenses was mainly induced by the declines recorded in salaries, allowances & other compensations (by 4.1 percent), other benefits (by 12.2 percent), management’s salaries & other remunerations (by 9.4 percent), and administrative & general expenses (by 8.7 percent).

Both the Return on Assets (ROA) and Return on Equity (ROE) expanded during the reporting quarter. ROA stood at 1.7 percent, from 1.4 percent recorded for the previous quarter, while ROE amounted to 11.4 percent, rising by 2.1 percentage points, compared with the amount reported a quarter ago. When viewed annually, ROA fell by 0.1 percentage point from 1.8 percent, while ROE rose by 1.0 percentage point from 10.4 percent. The industry’s net operating profit for the quarter ended September 2022 expanded slightly by L\$0.76 billion to L\$3.42 billion, from L\$2.66 billion reported a quarter ago partly on account of the increase in NPLs. Similarly, on a year-on-year basis, net operating profit rose by 4.1 percent compared with the corresponding quarter of 2021, largely on account of the rise in non-performing loans in the reporting quarter.

3.2.4 Commercial Bank Credit

At end-September 2022, the stock of commercial banks’ loans & advances to various subsectors of the economy amounted to L\$79.29 billion, expanded by 5.8 percent, from L\$74.93 billion recorded at end-June 2022. The expansion in loans & advances was largely triggered by growths recorded in loans extended to individuals, services, extractive, general government, and “the others” subsectors. The increases in these subsectors were largely explained by growths in loan & advances extended to individuals, gold extraction, other extractive processes, storage services, hotel & other services, government, and “the others” subsector.

The sectoral contributions of loans to total credit during the quarter were as follows: personal loans (households), 7.6 percentage points; services, 4.5 percentage points; extractive, 0.1 percentage point; loans to general government, 0.01 percentage point; construction, negative 0.4 percentage point; agriculture, negative 0.6 percentage point; public corporation, negative 1.0 percentage point;

oil & gas, negative 1.4 percentage point; manufacturing, negative 3.1 percentage point; trade, negative 3.6 percentage point; and loans to other subsectors, 3.7 percentage point.

Compared with the stock of loans & advances extended in the corresponding quarter of 2021, total commercial banks' credit to the economy slightly grew by 0.4 percent, largely induced by growths in loans to individuals, services, and "the other" subsectors (Table 3.1).

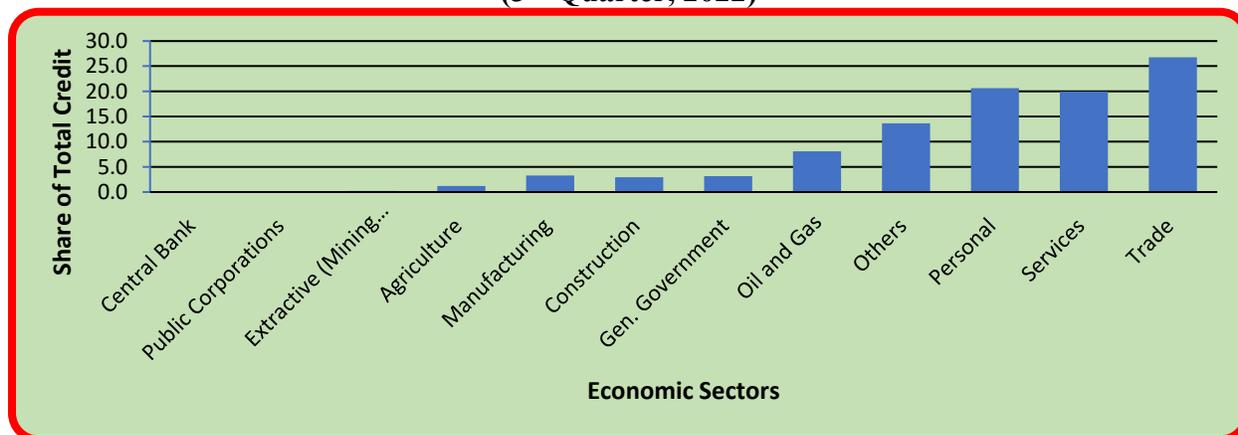
At end-September 2022, both the United States dollar (USD) denominated loans and the Liberian dollar (L\$) component of the total loan portfolio rose. The USD credits to the economy accounted for 93.2 percent of total credits and rose by 5.6 percent to US\$480.68 million compared with US\$455.14 million recorded a quarter ago. When compared annually, USD credits grew by 11.8 percent, from US\$429.86 million reported in the corresponding quarter of 2021. The total stock of credit at the end of the reporting quarter (L\$79.29 billion), converted to USD rose by 11.6 percent (1.1 percentage point below the rate recorded at end-June 2022) at end-September 2022 compared with end-September 2021, demonstrating the structural constraint in the economy partly induced by the Russia-Ukraine crisis as well as the global health crisis. During the reporting quarter, total credit advanced to the private sector through the banking system accounted for 98.7 percent (1.1 percentage point above the share recorded for June 2022) of the total credit portfolio in the economy.

Table 3.1: Commercial Bank Loans by Economic Sectors
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of L\$)

	2021		2022		Contribution to Credit Growth			
	Q3	Share	Q2	Share	Q3	Share	Q-o-Q	Y-o-Y
Agriculture	3,652.93	4.63	3,067.76	4.09	2,605.97	3.29	(0.62)	(1.33)
Extractive (Mining & Quarrying)	263.32	0.33	123.66	0.17	181.54	0.23	0.08	(0.10)
Manufacturing	3,944.38	5.00	4,801.07	6.41	2,508.74	3.16	(3.06)	(1.82)
Construction	10,062.98	12.74	6,733.19	8.99	6,417.43	8.09	(0.42)	(4.62)
Services	12,510.67	15.84	12,463.82	16.63	15,826.35	19.96	4.49	4.20
Trade	25,865.83	32.76	23,883.99	31.88	21,204.42	26.74	(3.58)	(5.90)
Personal	10,901.66	13.81	10,663.05	14.23	16,341.41	20.61	7.58	6.89
Gen. Government	14.76	0.02	107.08	0.14	112.28	0.14	0.01	0.12
Central Bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Corporations	3,325.96	4.21	1,680.85	2.24	936.16	1.18	(0.99)	(3.03)
Oil and Gas	5,148.01	6.52	3,357.39	4.48	2,336.61	2.95	(1.36)	(3.56)
Others	3,275.40	4.15	8,043.53	10.74	10,823.21	13.65	3.71	9.56
Total Loan All Sectors (LD & USD)	78,965.89	100.00	74,925.39	100.00	79,294.13	100.00	5.83	0.42
<i>O/W TOTAL Private Sector (LD & USD)</i>	<i>75,625.18</i>	<i>95.77</i>	<i>73,137.46</i>	<i>97.61</i>	<i>78,245.69</i>	<i>98.68</i>	<i>6.82</i>	<i>3.32</i>

Source: Central Bank of Liberia

Chart 3.1: Percentage Distribution of Commercial Bank Loans by Economic Sectors
(3rd Quarter, 2022)



Source: Central Bank of Liberia

3.2.5 Interest Rate

Development in interest rates indicated broad stability for the quarter ended-September 2022 when matched against the rates recorded at end-June 2022 and at end-September 2021. The average interest rate on lending was maintained at 12.4 percent, personal loan rate at 12.8 percent, mortgage rate at 13.4 percent, time deposit rate at 3.5 percent, saving rate at 2.1 percent, and the rate on certificate of deposits at 3.3 percent (Table 3.2). The spread between the average lending and saving rates during the quarter stood at 10.3 percent. Similarly, annual comparison showed that all interest rates were stable compared with the corresponding period of 2021, except for mortgage rate which grew by 16.0 basis points.

**Table 3.2: Commercial Bank’s Interest Rates
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**

	2021	2022		
		Q ³	Q ²	Q ³
Avg. Lending Rate	12.44	12.44		12.44
Avg. Personal Loan Rate	12.78	12.78		12.78
Avg. Mortgage Rate	13.22	13.38		13.38
Avg. Time Deposit Rate	3.53	3.53		3.53
Avg. Savings Rate	2.10	2.10		2.10
Avg. Rate on CDs	3.25	3.25		3.25

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

3.2.6 Liberian Dollar in Circulation

The stock of Liberian dollar currency in circulation at end-September 2022 fell by 3.7 percent to L\$21,967.69 million, from L\$22,819.18 million reported at end-June 2022. The contraction was mainly induced by 35.8 percent decrease in currency in banks due to increased investment in the CBL bills and 1.7 percent decline in currency outside the banking system.

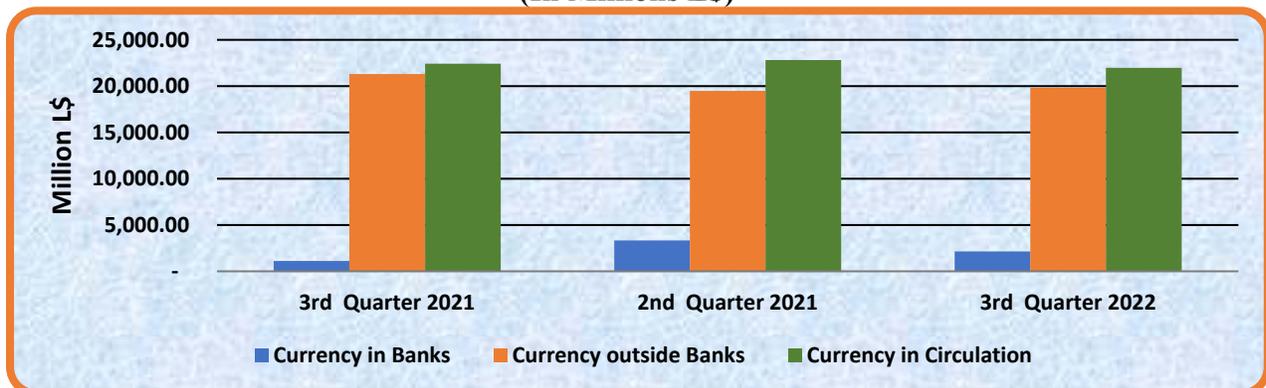
**Table 3.3: Commercial Bank’s Interest Rates
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions L\$)**

	2021		2022
	3 rd Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter
Currency in Banks	1,112.56	3,330.03	2,138.89
Currency outside Banks	21,310.57	19,489.15	19,828.79
Currency in Circulation	22,423.12	22,819.18	21,967.69

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

When compared with the stock of currency reported for the corresponding quarter of 2021, the Liberian dollar in circulation also declined by 2.0 percent (Chart 3.2). At end-September 2022, currency in banks constituted only 9.7 percent of total currency in circulation, which suggests a highly cash-driven economy and the challenging implications for effective monetary policy implementation. Currency in circulation as a percent of broad money for the reporting quarter slowed to 14.4 percent, from 15.8 percent recorded at end-June 2022, and from 15.5 percent reported for the same quarter a year ago.

**Chart 3.2: Liberian Dollars in Circulation
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions L\$)**



Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

3.2.7 Money Supply

At end-September 2022, the stock of narrow money supply (M1) expanded by 6.8 percent to L\$106,104.40 million, compared with the L\$99,974.93 million reported at end-June 2022. The expansion in M1 was triggered by 8.0 percent and 1.7 percent increases in demand deposits and

currency outside banks, respectively. Compared with the corresponding period of 2021, M1 rose by 5.8 percent (Table 3.4 and Chart 3.3).

Table 3.4: Broad Money Supply and its Sources
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of LS)

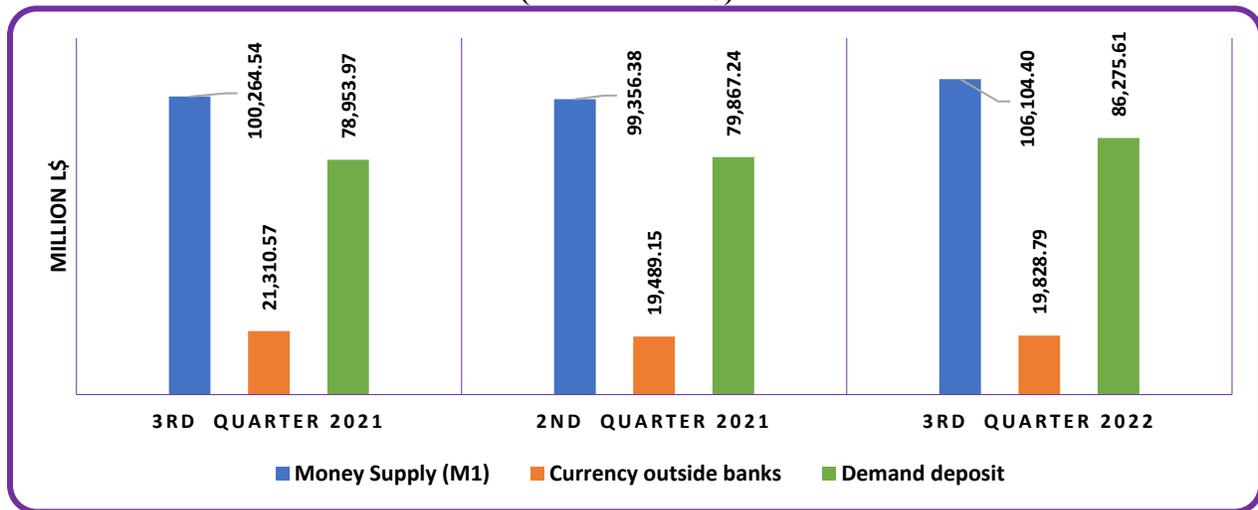
Monetary Aggregates	2021		2022		Percentage Change	
	3 rd Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	Q-o-Q	Y-o-Y	
1.0 Money Supply M2 (1.1 + 1.2)	144,804.16	144,513.81	152,280.14	5.37	5.16	
1.1 Money Supply M1	100,264.54	99,356.38	106,104.40	6.79	5.82	
1.1.1 Currency outside banks	21,310.57	19,489.15	19,828.79	1.74	-6.95	
1.1.2 Demand deposit 1/	78,953.97	79,867.24	86,275.61	8.02	9.27	
1.2 Quasi Money	44,539.62	45,157.43	46,175.74	2.26	3.67	
1.2.1 Time & Savings deposits	44,144.07	44,827.31	45,874.05	2.34	3.92	
1.2.2 Other deposits 2/	395.55	330.12	301.68	-8.61	-23.73	
2.0 Net Foreign Assets	25,140.22	23,103.53	16,263.94	-29.60	-35.31	
2.1 Central Bank	(1,687.09)	6,843.48	2,858.52	-58.23	-269.43	
2.2 Banking Institutions	26,827.31	16,260.04	13,405.42	-17.56	-50.03	
3.0 Net Domestic Assets (1 - 2)	119,663.94	121,410.29	136,016.20	12.03	13.67	
3.1 Domestic Credit	186,540.26	175,391.45	190,152.65	8.42	1.94	
3.1.1 Government (net)	94,379.59	85,456.61	98,984.91	15.83	4.88	
3.1.2 Pvt. Sector & Other Pvt.	92,160.66	89,934.84	91,167.74	1.37	-1.08	
3.2 Other assets Net (3 - 3.1)	66,876.31	53,981.16	54,136.45	0.29	-19.05	
Memorandum Items						
1. Overall Liquidity	144,804.16	144,513.81	152,280.14	5.37	5.16	
2. Reserve Money	46,112.29	47,078.66	55,740.03	18.40	20.88	
Currency in Circulation	22,423.12	22,819.18	21,967.69	-3.73	-2.03	
Banks Reserves	23,293.62	23,929.37	33,470.66	39.87	43.69	
Other Deposits at CBL	395.55	330.12	301.68	-8.61	-23.73	

Source: Central Bank of Liberia

1/Excludes managers cheques from commercial banks

2/ Includes official and managers checks issued by the Central Bank

**Chart 3.3: Narrow Money Supply (M1)
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions L\$)**



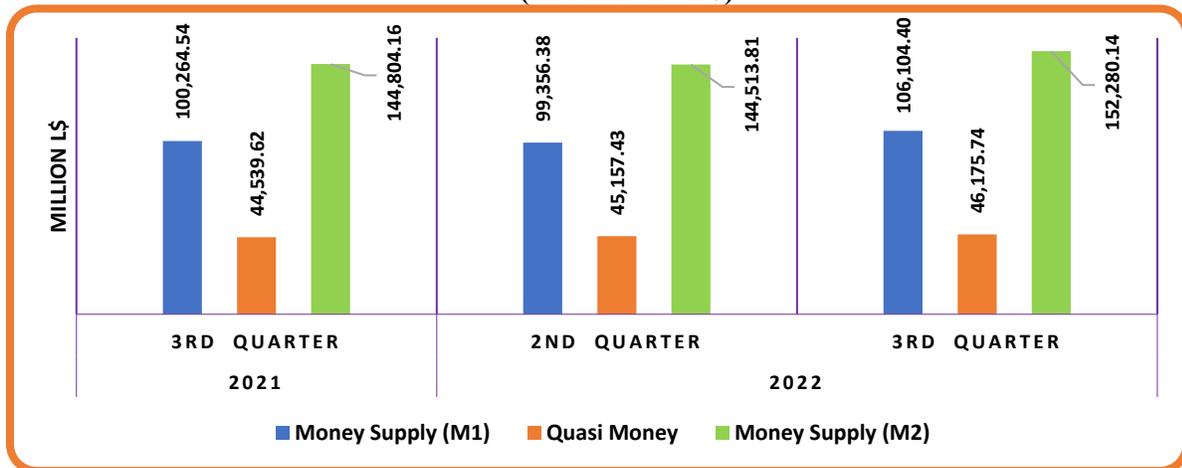
Source: Central Bank of Liberia

3.2.8 Broad Money Supply

Development in monetary aggregates showed that the stock of broad money supply (M2) at end-September 2022 rose by 5.4 percent to L\$152,280.14 million, from L\$145,079.77 million recorded at end-June 2022. From the liability side, the growth in M2 was largely induced by the increases reported in demand deposits, time & saving deposits, and currency outside banks despite the decline recorded in other deposits. When viewed from the assets side, M2 rose on account of 13.7 percent expansions in Net Domestic Assets (NDA), despite the 29.6 percent reduction in Net Foreign Assets (NFA). When matched against the amount reported a year ago, broad money rose by 5.2 percent, primarily influenced by the expansion in NDA (Table 3.4). The rise in NDA at end-September 2022 was mainly prompted by increases in credit to government (net) and credit to the private sector.

At end-September 2022, the Liberian dollar component of broad money (M2) was 28.5 percent (0.0 percentage point lower) compared with the share recorded in the previous quarter. The US dollar component of M2 for the review quarter stood at 71.5 percent, 0.0 percentage point higher compared with the figure recorded a quarter ago and 0.8 percentage point lower when matched with the share reported in the corresponding quarter of 2021, confirming the highly dollarized nature of the economy (Chart 3.5).

Chart 3.4: Broad Money Supply (M2)
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions L\$)



Source: Central Bank of Liberia

Chart 3.5: Broad Money: Share of US and Liberian Dollars
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Percent)



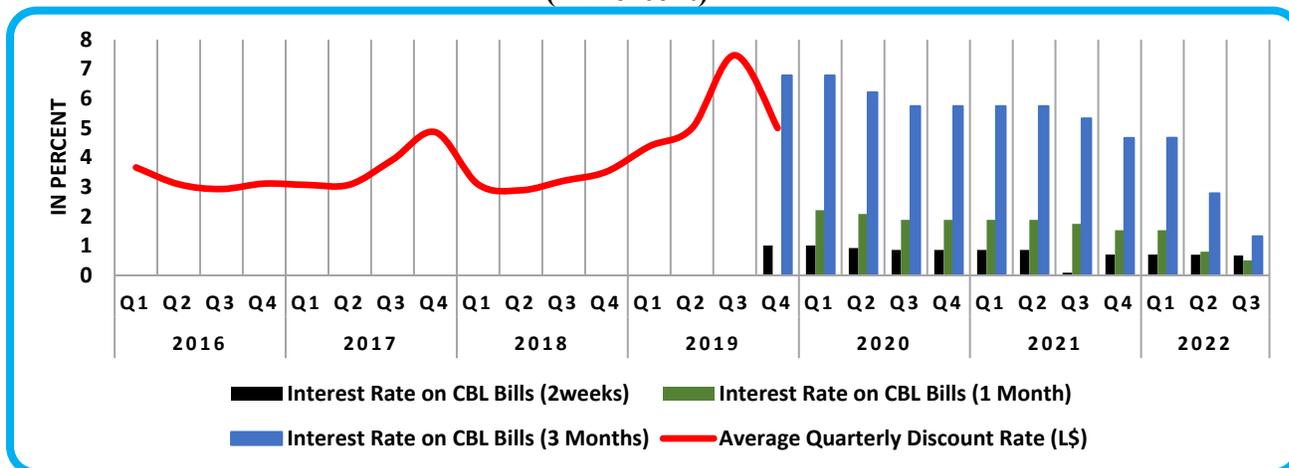
Source: Central Bank of Liberia

3.3. Government Securities

During the quarter ended September 2022, the CBL, on behalf of the Government of Liberia, issued US\$24.0 million and L\$6.0 billion Treasury Bills (T-bill). There was no issuance of Treasury Bonds (T-bond) neither a redemption of T-Bill or T-Bond during the reporting quarter. As a result, the outstanding T-bills stood at US\$71.66 million and L\$6.0 billion. For the previous quarter ended June 2022, there was an issuance of US\$2.50 million Treasury Bonds (T-bond) and US\$87.66 million Treasury Bills (T-bill). There was no redemption recorded in said quarter.

Also, for the reporting quarter ended September 2022, there was no issuance of Treasury Bond, thus suggesting an outstanding balance of US\$57.56 million, as at end-September 2022. For the corresponding quarter of 2021, there was neither issuance nor redemption of both T-bills and T-bonds.

**Chart 3.6: Average Quarterly Yields
Government of Liberia 91-Day Treasury-bill Auctions (2016-2022Q1)
(In Percent)**



Source: Central Bank of Liberia

3.4 Central Bank of Liberia Bills and SDF

The CBL bills offered during the quarter ended September 2022 stood at L\$13.48 billion, with 100.0 percent subscription. The offered amount represented 13.1 percent growth in comparison with the amount offered during the previous quarter and reflected 20.5 percent increase compared with the amount offered during the corresponding quarter of 2021. Subscriptions for CBL bills continued to be relatively high, largely driven by increased public confidence in holding CBL bills.

Table 3.5: CBL Bills
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of LS)

First Issuance Date	Last Maturity Date	Amount Issued	Average Interest Rate (%)
2 WEEKS			
1-Jul-22	14-Oct-22	293.30	0.67
1 MONTH			
1-Jul-22	28-Oct-22	7,573.50	0.50
3 MONTHS			
1-Jul-22	30-Dec-22	5,610.75	1.33
Total Amount Issued		13,477.54	
2nd Quarter, 2022			
First Issuance Date	Last Maturity Date	Amount Issued	Average Interest Rate (%)
2 WEEKS			
1-Apr-22	14-Apr-22	0.43	0.70
1 MONTH			
1-Apr-22	29-Apr-22	7,345.78	0.80
3 MONTHS			
1-Apr-22	1-Jul-22	4,568.27	2.78
Total Amount Issued		11,914.48	
3rd Quarter, 2021			
First Issuance Date	Last Maturity Date	Amount Issued	Average Interest Rate (%)
2 WEEKS			
2-Jul-21	8-Oct-21	4.32	0.09
1 MONTH			
2-Jul-21	22-Oct-21	7,097.35	1.75
3 MONTHS			
2-Jul-21	24-Dec-21	4,077.90	5.33
Total Amount Issued		11,179.57	

Source: Central Bank of Liberia

Table 3.6: CBL Bills, Q3-2022
(In Millions of L\$)

Issuance Date	Maturity Date	Unsubscribed Amount	Commercial Banks Issued	Retail Via Commercial Banks Issued	Amount Issued	Interest Rate (%)
THREE MONTHS						
1-Jul-22	30-Sep-22	-	371.55	13.09	384.64	0.32
8-Jul-22	7-Oct-22	-	469.39	24.66	494.05	0.30
15-Jul-22	14-Oct-22	-	317.89	7.23	325.12	0.14
22-Jul-22	21-Oct-22	-	371.60	11.97	383.57	0.19
29-Jul-22	28-Oct-22	-	368.65	5.89	374.55	0.01
5-Aug-22	4-Nov-22	-	441.37	25.71	467.07	0.54
12-Aug-22	11-Nov-22	-	305.99	23.58	329.58	1.30
19-Aug-22	18-Nov-22	-	248.90	10.43	259.33	1.06
26-Aug-22	25-Nov-22	-	306.50	9.97	316.47	0.84
2-Sep-22	2-Dec-22	-	708.29	11.68	719.97	1.44
9-Sep-22	9-Dec-22	-	556.42	76.93	633.35	2.42
16-Sep-22	16-Dec-22	-	278.53	9.07	287.61	2.77
23-Sep-22	23-Dec-22	-	274.34	11.11	285.45	3.72
30-Sep-22	30-Dec-22	-	347.35	2.65	350.00	3.52
TOTAL		-	5,366.77	243.99	5,610.75	1.33
ONE MONTHS						
1-Jul-22	29-Jul-22	-	659.93	4.79	664.72	0.03
8-Jul-22	5-Aug-22	-	850.76	3.01	853.77	0.02
15-Jul-22	12-Aug-22	-	541.04	21.04	562.08	0.07
22-Jul-22	19-Aug-22	-	400.00	1.22	401.22	0.02
29-Jul-22	26-Aug-22	-	641.22	2.73	643.95	0.01
5-Aug-22	2-Sep-22	-	793.25	9.41	802.66	0.28
12-Aug-22	9-Sep-22	-	555.68	10.69	566.37	0.55
19-Aug-22	16-Sep-22	-	442.71	2.94	445.65	0.51
26-Aug-22	23-Sep-22	-	543.84	-	543.84	0.55
2-Sep-22	30-Sep-22	-	465.00	18.07	483.07	0.99

9-Sep-22	7-Oct-22	-	300.00	0.12	300.12	0.95
16-Sep-22	14-Oct-22	-	479.70	0.13	479.83	1.09
23-Sep-22	21-Oct-22	-	475.08	1.15	476.23	0.89
30-Sep-22	28-Oct-22	-	346.42	3.58	350.00	1.09
TOTAL		-	7,494.62	78.88	7,573.50	0.50
TWO WEEKS						
1-Jul-22	15-Jul-22	-	-	0.05	0.05	0.70
8-Jul-22	22-Jul-22	-	-	0.05	0.05	0.70
15-Jul-22	29-Jul-22	-	-	0.17	0.17	0.70
29-Jul-22	12-Aug-22	-	-	0.18	0.18	0.70
2-Sep-22	16-Sep-22	-	-	0.14	0.14	0.70
30-Sep-22	14-Oct-22	-	292.71	-	292.71	0.51
TOTAL		-	292.71	0.58	293.30	0.67
TOTAL AMOUNT ISSUED					13,477.54	

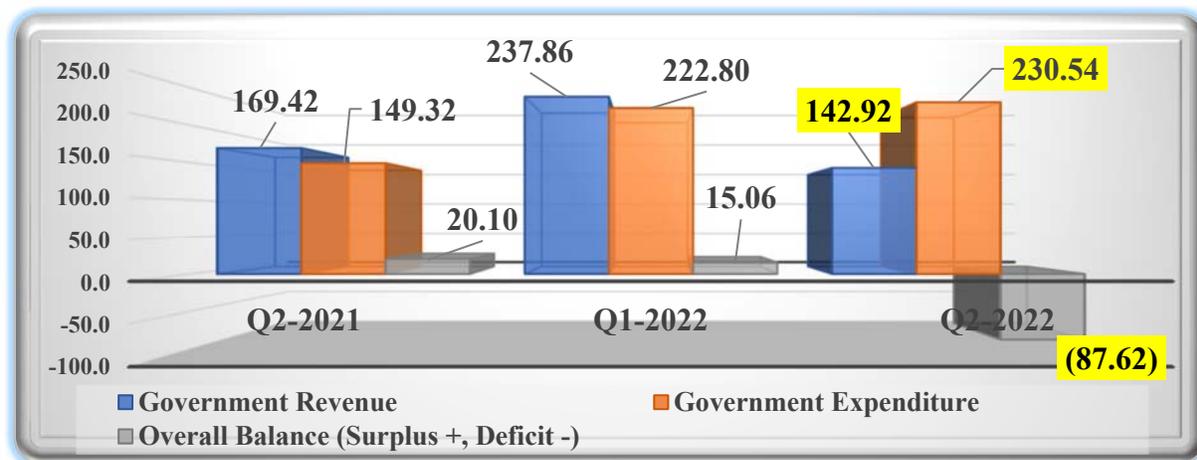
Source: Central Bank of Liberia

IV. FISCAL DEVELOPMENTS

4.1 Overview of GOL's Fiscal Operations

During the third quarter of 2022, the Government of Liberia's (GOL) fiscal operations resulted to US\$87.6 million (2.2 percent of GDP) deficit in the overall balance (OB) relative to the US\$15.1 million (0.4 percent of GDP) surplus that was reported in the second quarter of 2022. The deficit was due to a decrease in government revenue amidst a rise in expenditure⁶. Total revenue and expenditure amounted to US\$142.9 million (3.6 percent of GDP) and US\$230.5 million (5.8 percent of GDP), respectively.

Chart 4.1: Graphical Outlook of GOL's Fiscal Operations
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of US\$)



Source: CBL's Computation Using MFDP's Data

4.2 Government Revenue

During the third quarter of 2022, the fiscal operations recorded a reduction in government revenue relative to the second quarter of 2022. Consequently, total revenue fell by 39.9 percent to US\$142.9 million (3.6 percent of GDP) from US\$237.9 million (6.0 percent of GDP) that was collected in the previous quarter. The reduction was on account of declines in tax and non-tax revenues as well as other revenues (inclusive of grants & borrowings). Tax revenue contracted by 4.9 percent, totaling US\$122.9 million (3.1 percent of GDP), while non-tax revenue also contracted by 67.4 percent, amounting to US\$18.8 million (0.5 percent of GDP). Similarly, there

⁶ Using GOL's Cash Expenditure.

was significant decline in other revenues (inclusive of grants), by over fifty percent to US\$1.2 million (approximately 0.0 percent of GDP). The decrease in tax revenue was attributed to decreases in both taxes on property and goods & services, while the reduction in non-tax receipt was mainly driven by significant decrease in property income.

Similarly, a year-on-year comparison revealed that total revenue contracted by 15.6 percent relative to the corresponding period a year ago. The contraction was on account of reductions in non-tax revenue by 6.9 percent and other revenues by over 50 percent.

Table 4.1: Government Revenue
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of US\$)

Fiscal Operations	Q ³ -21	Q ² -22	Q ³ -22	Q-O-Q	Y-O-Y
	(Millions of USD)			(% Change)	
Total Government Revenue	169.42	237.86	142.92	(39.91)	(15.64)
Tax Revenue	115.03	129.25	122.88	(4.92)	6.83
o/w Taxes on Income & Profits	45.57	52.88	52.99	0.20	16.28
o/w Taxes on International Trade	58.35	52.15	53.31	2.24	(8.64)
Non-tax Revenue	20.21	57.66	18.81	(67.37)	(6.91)
o/w Property Income	16.33	52.84	14.19	(73.15)	(13.13)
o/w Administrative Fees & Penalties	3.88	4.82	4.62	(4.04)	19.26
Other Revenue (Grants, Borrowings & etc.)	34.18	50.96	1.22	(97.60)	(96.42)
Memorandum Items					
Total Revenue (% of GDP)	4.83	5.96	3.58	-	-
Tax Revenue (% of GDP)	3.28	3.24	3.08	-	-
Non-tax Revenue (% of GDP)	0.58	1.44	0.47	-	-
Other Revenues (% of GDP)	0.97	1.28	0.03	-	-
<i>GDP (In Millions of USD)</i>	3508.86	3992.07	3992.07	-	-

Source: CBL's Computation Using MFDP's Data

4.3 Government Expenditure

Total government expenditure expanded by 3.4 percent to US\$230.5 million (5.8 percent of GDP) relative to the US\$222.8 million (5.6 percent of GDP) in the second quarter of 2022. The expansion was driven by increases in current and capital expenditures as well as payments on loans, interest & other charges. Current expenditure marginally grew by 1.0 percent to US\$190.4 million (4.8 percent of GDP) due to growth in spending on goods and services. Capital expenditure

significantly rose by 42.2 percent to US\$9.3 million (0.2 percent of GDP), from US\$6.5 million (0.2 percent of GDP) expended in the preceding quarter. Similarly, payments on loans, interest & other charges grew by 11.0 percent to US\$30.9 million (0.8 percent of GDP), from US\$ 27.8 million (0.7 percent of GDP) in the preceding quarter.

Additional analysis further revealed that total expenditure expanded by 54.4 percent on annual basis, mainly influenced by increases in both current and capital expenditures.

**Table 4.2: Government Expenditure
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of US\$)**

Fiscal Operations	Q ³ -2021	Q ² -2022	Q ³ -2022	Q-O-Q	Y-O-Y
	(Millions of USD)			(% Change)	
Total Expenditure	149.32	222.80	230.54	3.47	54.39
Current Expenditure	118.83	188.45	190.39	1.03	60.22
o/w Employee Compensation	55.55	67.03	63.20	(5.71)	13.77
o/w Goods & Services	43.40	86.87	98.31	13.16	126.53
Capital Expenditure	0.34	6.53	9.28	42.15	2608.12
Payments Loan & Interest & other Charges	30.15	27.82	30.87	10.96	2.40
Memorandum Items					
Total Expenditure (% of GDP)	4.26	5.58	5.77	-	-
Current Expenditure (% of GDP)	3.39	4.72	4.77	-	-
Capital Expenditure (% of GDP)	0.01	0.16	0.23	-	-
Payments on loans & other Charges (% of GDP)	0.86	0.70	0.77	-	-
GDP (In Millions of USD)	3,508.86	3,992.07	3,992.07	-	-

Source: CBL's Computation Using MFDP's Data

NB: GOL's expenditure is reported on cash basis.

4.4 Public Debt

At end-September-2022, Liberia's stock of public debt totaled US\$1,957.4 million (49.0 percent of GDP) relative to the US\$1,915.0 million (48.0 percent of GDP) reported in the preceding quarter. The increase in the debt stock was driven by 2.2 percent rise in both external and domestic debts. External debt totaled US\$1,121.6 million (28.1 percent of GDP), while domestic debt totaled US\$835.8 million (20.9 percent of GDP).

Furthermore, the stock of public debt expanded by 16.0 percent compared to the corresponding period a year ago. Similarly, domestic, and external debts expanded by 20.7 percent and 12.6 percent, respectively, relative to the same period a year ago.

Table 4.3: Liberia's Public Debt Statistics
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of US\$)

Fiscal Operations	Q ² -2021	Q ¹ -2022	Q ² -2022	Q-O-Q	Y-O-Y
	(Millions of USD)			(% Change)	
Total Debt Stock	1687.93	1914.97	1957.36	2.21	15.96
External	995.69	1097.23	1121.57	2.22	12.64
o/w Multilateral	882.28	984.16	1009.85	2.61	14.46
o/w Bilateral	113.41	113.07	111.72	(1.19)	(1.50)
Domestic	692.24	817.74	835.79	2.21	20.74
o/w Financial Institutions	621.44	747.56	770.06	3.01	23.92
o/w CBL	525.48	575.48	575.48	0.00	9.52
o/w Commercial Banks	95.96	172.08	194.58	13.08	102.78
o/w Other Debts	70.80	70.18	65.73	(6.35)	(7.17)
Memorandum Items					
Total Debt Stock (% of GDP)	48.10	47.97	49.03	-	-
External (% of GDP)	28.38	27.49	28.09	-	-
Domestic Debt (% of GDP)	19.73	20.48	20.94	-	-
Debt Service (% of GDP)	0.05	0.11	0.10	-	-
GDP (In Millions of USD)	3,508.86	3,992.07	3,992.07	-	-

Source: CBL's Computation Using MFDPA's Data

V. EXTERNAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENTS

5.1 Overview

Provisional statistics showed that the performance in the external sector was subdued in the third quarter of 2022. The current account deficit widened to 4.7 percent of GDP from 1.8 Percent of GDP in the previous quarter, mainly on account of growth in the merchandise trade deficit. The estimated capital account inflows (net) declined to 3.0 percent of GDP due to reduction in capital transfers. However, the net inflows/liabilities of the financial account grew to 3.7 percent of GDP, driven by direct and other investment inflows. Accordingly, the overall balance of payments (BoP) recorded a deficit of 0.6 percent of GDP against the 0.2 percent of GDP reported in quarter two of 2022.

The gross international reserves (GIR) at end-September 2022 decreased by 2.1 percent to 15.1 percent of GDP, reflecting decline in foreign liquid assets including Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) holding and reserves, coupled with increase in the CBL's net liquid US dollars liabilities. However, GIR in months of import cover remained 0.4 month above the ECOWAS regional benchmark at 3.4 months of import cover to finance the imports of goods and services.

5.2 Current Account (CA)

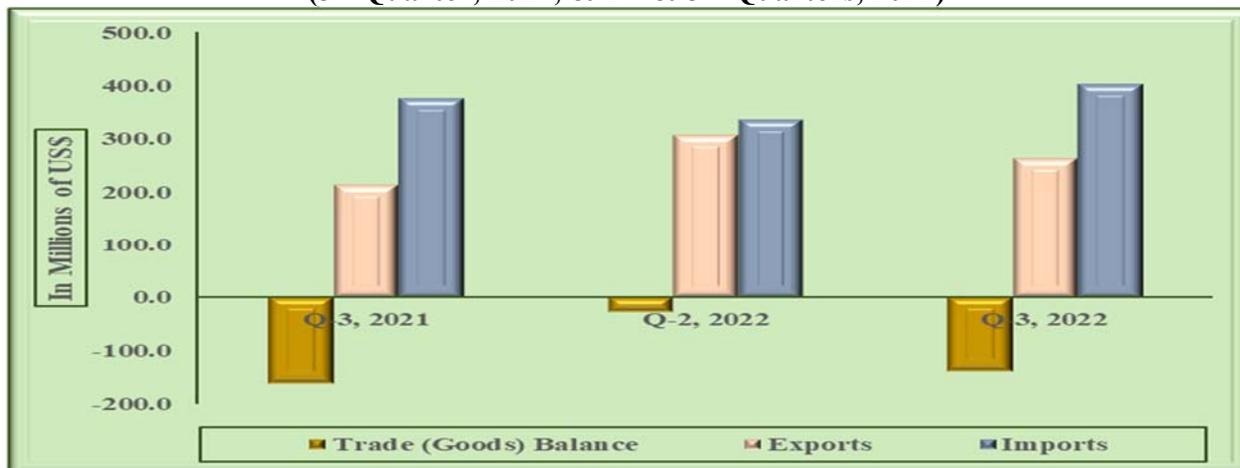
The current account deficit widened by US\$112.1 million to US\$184.7 million (4.7 percent of GDP) in quarter three of 2022, from the US\$72.5 million (1.8 percent of GDP) recorded in quarter two, 2022. This development was due largely to deteriorations of the deficits in the merchandise trade, services, and primary income balances.

5.2.1 Goods Account (net)

The merchandise trade deficit increased significantly by US\$110.7 million to US\$139.9 million (3.6 percent of GDP) during the quarter under review, from the US\$29.2 million (0.7 percent of GDP) recorded in quarter two of 2022. The worsening deficit was driven by decline in export receipts supported by rise in import payments. Total merchandise trade (exports plus imports), with imports on fob basis, increased by 3.7 percent to US\$668.3 million (17.0 percent of GDP),

from the US\$644.5 million (16.4 percent of GDP) in quarter one 2022, led by growth in import payments.

**Chart 5.1: Merchandise Trade Balance
(3rd Quarter, 2021; & 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**



Source: Central Bank of Liberia

5.2.2 Exports

Total merchandise exports plummeted by 14.1 percent to US\$264.2 million (6.7 percent of GDP) in quarter three of 2022, from the US\$307.6 million (7.8 percent of GDP) reported in the previous quarter largely on account of declines in export earnings from iron ore, gold, round logs, and the “other exports” category. Earnings from iron ore, gold, and round logs shrank to US\$67.5 million, US\$130.5 million, and US\$1.5 million, from US\$77.4 million, US\$146.1 million, and US\$32.9 million in the previous quarter, respectively. However, export earnings from rubber, diamond, and the “other exports” category rose to US\$33.8 million, US\$6.0 million, and US\$14.1 million, from US\$26.9 million, US\$5.5 million, and US\$8.0 million in the second quarter of 2022, respectively. Palm oil exports amounted to US\$10.8 million, same as the amount recorded in the preceding quarter.

5.2.3 Imports (FOB & CIF)

Import payments (on fob basis) grew by 20.0 percent to US\$404.1 million (10.3 percent of GDP) during the quarter under review, from the US\$336.8 million (8.6 percent of GDP) reported in quarter two of 2022. This development was due to increases in payments for all of the imports’ categories: food & live animals (including animals & vegetable oil) by 11.6 percent to US\$79.8 million; minerals, fuel & lubricants (mainly petroleum products) by 11.6 percent to US\$138.1

million; machinery & transport equipment by 30.9 percent to US\$81.7 million; manufactured goods classified chiefly by materials by 54.3 percent to US\$48.1 million; chemicals & related products by 18.7 percent to US\$36.4 million; and the “other imports” category by 14.8 percent to US\$20.1 million.

Additionally, payments for imports (on CIF basis) increased by 18.1 percent to US\$453.5 million (11.5 percent of GDP), from the US\$383.8 million (9.7 percent of GDP), driven by growths in payments for all the imports’ categories.

5.2.4 Direction of Trade (DOT)

Europe was the main destination of Liberia’s exports in quarter three of 2022, accounting for 70.1 percent of total export earnings. North America, Asia, and Africa accounted for 9.2 percent, 4.4 percent, and 3.8 percent of exports, respectively. In terms of countries, Switzerland, the United States of America (USA), Belgium, India, and Israel were the top four destinations of the country’s exports during the quarter. For Switzerland, gold was the main export commodity to the country, while for the USA, Belgium, and India, the main exported commodities were rubber, iron ore, and palm oil, respectively.

Asia was the top source of imports to Liberia during the review quarter, accounting for 43.8 percent of total import payments, followed by Africa (36.5 percent), and Europe (13.6 percent). From Asia, India was the major origin of imports (mainly Food and Live animals); in Africa, Cote d’Ivoire was the major source of imports (primarily petroleum products); while in Europe, the United Kingdom was the main origin of imports (particularly Food and Live animals) to the country.

Table 5.1: Directions of Trade
(In Millions of US\$, except otherwise indicated)
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Direction of Trade by Region	Q – 3, 2021		Q – 2, 2022 ^r		Q – 3, 2022 ^p	
	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import
Africa	4.66	95.27	9.87	130.07	10.11	147.42
o/w ECOWAS	2.73	79.16	3.71	112.99	3.70	132.04
o/w NC ¹	2.46	74.19	2.78	107.16	1.61	125.34
o/w Sierra Leone	2.46	1.98	2.78	0.5	0.00	0.54
o/w Guinea	0.00	1.02	0.00	1.11	1.53	1.83
o/w Cote D’Ivoire	0.00	72.21	0	105.54	0.07	62.76
Asia	14.37	189.06	10.82	138.43	11.67	177.15

o/w China	0.11	59.75	0.17	39.3	0.96	65.32
o/w India	1.17	37.15	3.86	42.07	5.37	33.56
o/w ME ² Countries	4.43	25.89	3.0	23.18	3.07	24.58
o/w Israel	0.52	0.74	1.14	0.00	2.45	0.13
o/w UAE	4.19	25.88	1.68	10.64	0.61	10.62
Europe	169.80	58.19	231.51	39.74	185.18	54.91
o/w Netherlands	0.99	5.00	1.36	5.95	0.00	6.64
o/w Switzerland	60.770	0.44	144.84	0.05	127.93	0.00
o/w Eurozone	32.69	45.11	15.46	29.45	57.26	47.27
o/w United Kingdom	32.67	2.43	15.46	6.83	9.17	11.38
o/w Spain	0.00	2.44	2.25	3.50	3.92	1.68
o/w Belgium	7.18		9.86	2.09	9.49	4.07
N. America & The Caribbean	21.74	31.41	13.02	18.11	24.41	15.27
o/w USA	21.74	17.91	13.02	13.35	24.41	9.19
South & Central America	0.89	10.39	0.34	9.76	0.25	8.76
o/w Mexico	0.77	1.16	0.14	0.66	0.25	0.70
o/w Brazil	0.12	7.11	0.2	5.31	0.00	3.80
o/w Argentina	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.08	0.00	0.36
Oceania	0.00	2.82	0.00	0.72	0.00	0.57
o/w Australia	0.00	0.37	0.00	0.44	0.00	0.21
Other Countries (n.i.e)	2.65	0.00	42.04	0.00	32.5	0.00
Total of DOT	214.12	376.76	307.62	336.83	264.2	404.07

*Source: Liberia Revenue Authority (CUSTOM ASYCUDA), Firestone Liberia, Total Liberia, Ministry of Lands, Mines & Energy
r-revised, p-provisional /1 - neighboring countries (these include Ivory Coast, Guinea, and Sierra Leone) /2 – Middle Eastern Countries*

5.2.5 Services Account (net)

The deficit in the services account (net) grew by 2.1 percent to US\$63.9 million (1.6 percent of GDP) in quarter three of 2022 relative to the US\$62.7 million (1.6 percent of GDP) recorded in the preceding quarter. The growth was occasioned mainly by increases in payments for transport, and insurance & pension related services.

5.2.5.1 Primary Income (net)

The deficit in the primary income balance rose by 5.2 percent to US\$28.6 million (0.7 percent of GDP) during the review period, from the US\$27.2 million (0.7 percent of GDP) recorded in quarter two 2022, largely on account of increase in payments towards employees' compensation.

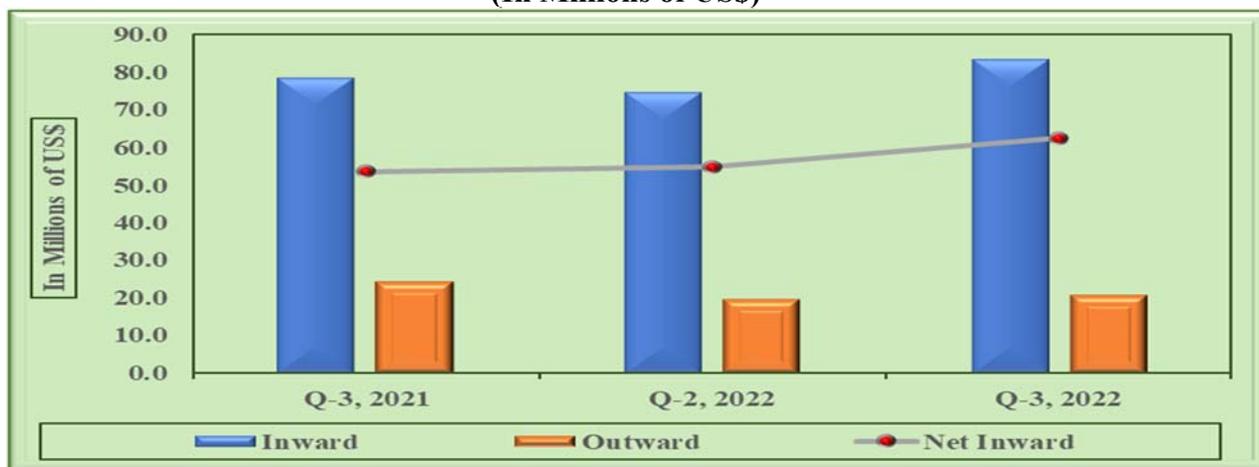
5.2.5.2 Secondary Income (net)

Net inflows from the secondary income account increased by 2.6 percent to US\$47.8 million (1.2 percent of GDP) in quarter three of 2022 compared to the US\$46.5 million (1.2 percent of GDP) reported in the previous quarter, mainly reflecting growth in current transfers related to workers' remittances.

5.2.5.3 Personal Remittances

Net inflows of personal/workers' remittances grew by 13.9 percent to US\$62.5 million (1.6 percent of GDP) during the quarter under review, from the US\$54.9 million (1.4 percent of GDP) reported in quarter two of 2022. This development was driven by increase in inward remittances which outweighed the growth in outward remittances. Inward remittances rose by 11.8 percent to US\$83.3 million, from the US\$74.5 million reported in the second quarter of 2022. Similarly, outward personal remittances grew by 5.9 percent to US\$20.7 million, from the US\$19.6 million recorded in the preceding quarter.

Chart 5.2: Net Personal Inward Remittances
(3rd Quarter, 2021; & 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of US\$)



Source: Central Bank of Liberia

5.3 Capital Account (KA)

Provisional capital account inflows (net) reduced by 7.9 percent to US\$119.8 million (3.0 percent of GDP) during the review quarter, from the US\$130.1 million (3.3 percent of GDP) in quarter two of 2022, mainly reflecting decline in capital transfers related to project grants from development partners.

Table 5.3: Balance of Payments Statistics
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

	2021		2022		2021		2022		
	Q-3	Q-2r	Q-3p	Q-3	Q-2r	Q-3p	Q-3	Q-2r	
Balance of Payments (BOP)	In Millions, US\$			In % of GDP					
Current Account (CA)	-207.9	-72.5	-184.7	-5.9	-1.8	-4.7			
Credit	304.1	392.2	361.4	8.7	10.0	9.2			
Debit	512.0	464.8	546.1	14.6	11.8	13.9			
Goods and services	-224.7	-91.9	-203.8	-6.4	-2.3	-5.2			
Credit	217.6	311.2	268.0	6.2	7.9	6.8			
Debit	442.3	403.1	471.8	12.6	10.2	12.0			
Goods Account (Trade Balance)	-162.6	-29.2	-139.9	-4.6	-0.7	-3.6			
Credit (Exports)	214.1	307.6	264.2	6.1	7.8	6.7			
<i>Iron Ore</i>	<i>100.3</i>	<i>77.4</i>	<i>67.5</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>1.7</i>			
<i>Rubber</i>	<i>28.9</i>	<i>26.9</i>	<i>33.8</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.9</i>			
<i>Minerals</i>	<i>68.3</i>	<i>151.6</i>	<i>136.5</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>3.9</i>	<i>3.5</i>			
<i>Gold</i>	<i>63.9</i>	<i>146.1</i>	<i>130.5</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>3.7</i>	<i>3.3</i>			
<i>Diamond</i>	<i>4.4</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>6.0</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.2</i>			
<i>Palm oil</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>10.8</i>	<i>10.8</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.3</i>			
<i>Round Logs</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>32.9</i>	<i>1.5</i>						
<i>Other Exports</i>	<i>9.1</i>	<i>8.0</i>	<i>14.1</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.4</i>			
Debit (Imports, fob)	376.8	336.8	404.1	10.7	8.6	10.3			
<i>Food and Live Animals (including Animals & Veg. Oil)</i>	<i>68.6</i>	<i>71.5</i>	<i>79.8</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>2.0</i>			
<i>O/w Rice</i>	<i>22.2</i>	<i>16.3</i>	<i>14.1</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.4</i>			
<i>Minerals, Fuel, Lubricants</i>	<i>83.5</i>	<i>123.7</i>	<i>138.1</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>3.1</i>	<i>3.5</i>			
<i>O/w Petroleum Products</i>	<i>71.6</i>	<i>105.4</i>	<i>28.1</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>0.7</i>			
<i>Machinery & Transport Equipment</i>	<i>100.6</i>	<i>62.4</i>	<i>81.7</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>2.1</i>			
<i>Manufactured goods classified by materials</i>	<i>49.8</i>	<i>31.1</i>	<i>48.1</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>1.2</i>			
<i>Chemicals & Related Products</i>	<i>48.2</i>	<i>30.6</i>	<i>36.4</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>0.9</i>			
<i>Other Imports</i>	<i>26.1</i>	<i>17.5</i>	<i>20.1</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.5</i>			
General merchandise on a balance of payments basis	-226.6	-175.3	-270.3	-6.5	-4.5	-6.9			
Credit	150.2	161.5	133.7	4.3	4.1	3.4			
Debit	376.8	336.8	404.1	10.7	8.6	10.3			
<i>Of which Re-exports (credit)</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>			
Nonmonetary gold	63.9	146.1	130.5	1.8	3.7	3.3			
Credit	63.9	146.1	130.5	1.8	3.7	3.3			
Debit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			
Services (net)	-62.1	-62.7	-63.9	-1.8	-1.6	-1.6			
Credit	3.5	3.6	3.8	0.1	0.1	0.1			
Debit	65.6	66.2	67.7	1.9	1.7	1.7			

Primary Income (net)	-32.1	-27.2	-28.6	-0.9	-0.7	-0.7
Credit	6.9	5.0	5.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Debit	39.1	32.3	33.9	1.1	0.8	0.9
Secondary Income (net)	49.0	46.5	47.8	1.4	1.2	1.2
Credit	79.5	76.0	88.1	2.3	1.9	2.2
Debit	30.6	29.4	40.3	0.9	0.7	1.0
Capital Account (KA)	14.1	130.1	119.8	0.4	3.3	3.0
Credit	14.1	130.1	119.8	0.4	3.3	3.0
Debit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net lending (+) / net borrowing (-) (CA & KA)	-193.8	57.5	-64.8	-5.5	1.5	-1.6
Financial Account (FA)						
Net lending (+) / net borrowing (-) (balance from FA)	-388.6	-48.2	-145.1	-11.1	-1.2	-3.7
Direct Investment (DI)	-2.1	20.4	-13.8	-0.1	0.5	-0.4
Net acquisition of financial assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net incurrence of liabilities	2.1	-20.4	13.8	0.1	-0.5	0.4
Other Investment (OI)	-386.5	-68.7	-131.3	-11.0	-1.7	-3.3
Net acquisition of financial assets	-16.6	-52.2	-36.0	-0.5	-1.3	-0.9
Net incurrence of liabilities	369.9	16.5	95.3	10.5	0.4	2.4
<i>Net Errors & Omissions (NEO)</i>	<i>-538.1</i>	<i>-98.6</i>	<i>-54.8</i>	<i>-15.3</i>	<i>-2.5</i>	<i>-1.4</i>
Overall Balance (OB)	343.3	-7.1	-25.4	9.8	-0.2	-0.6
Financing	-343.3	7.1	25.4	-9.8	0.2	0.6
Changes in Reserve Assets (-increase; +decrease)	-343.3	7.1	25.4	-9.8	0.2	0.6
<i>Memorandum Items</i>						
<i>Gross International Reserves</i>	<i>649.1</i>	<i>607.1</i>	<i>594.1</i>	<i>8.6</i>	<i>15.4</i>	<i>15.1</i>
<i>Import cover</i>	<i>4.1</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Imports (cif)</i>	<i>405.1</i>	<i>383.8</i>	<i>453.5</i>	<i>11.5</i>	<i>9.7</i>	<i>11.5</i>
<i>Service Payments</i>	<i>65.6</i>	<i>66.2</i>	<i>67.7</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>1.7</i>
<i>Total Imports of Goods/Services</i>	<i>470.7</i>	<i>450.1</i>	<i>521.2</i>	<i>13.4</i>	<i>11.4</i>	<i>13.2</i>
<i>Current Account Bal. Excl. Grants</i>	<i>-208.9</i>	<i>-73.5</i>	<i>-188.7</i>	<i>-6.0</i>	<i>-1.9</i>	<i>-4.8</i>
<i>End-of-Period</i>	<i>170.9</i>	<i>152.9</i>	<i>153.8</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Period Average</i>	<i>171.5</i>	<i>151.8</i>	<i>153.6</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Annual Nominal GDP market prices</i>	<i>3,508.9</i>	<i>3,937.6</i>	<i>3,937.6</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>

Source: Central Bank of Liberia staff

r - revised; p - provisional

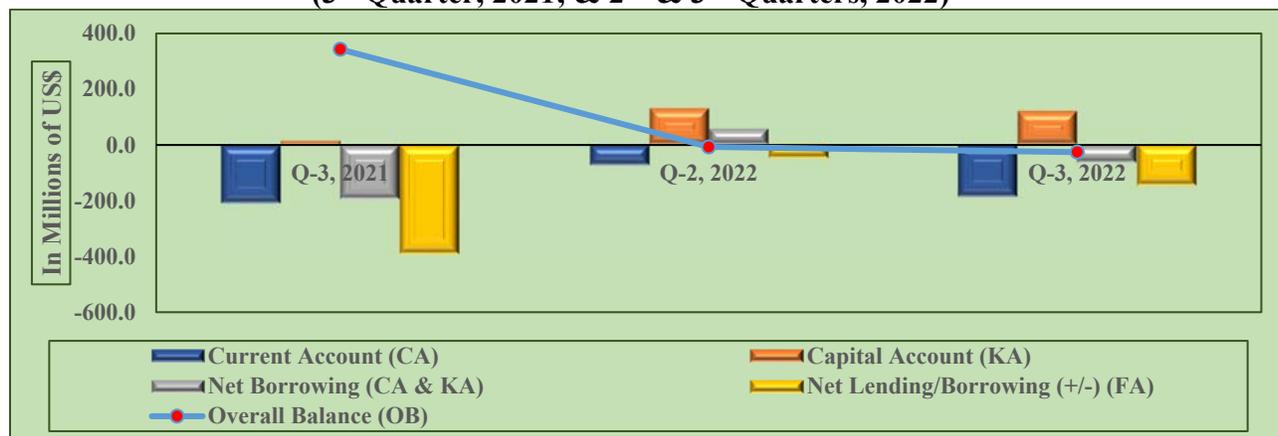
† NGDP is based on the 2022 ECF Review Mission.

5.4 Financial Account (FA)

From provisional statistics, the net inflows in the financial account grew by US\$96.8 million to US\$145.1 million (3.7 percent of GDP) in quarter three of 2022, from the US\$48.2 million

(1.2 percent of GDP) recorded in the previous quarter. This development was driven by increases in direct investment, and other investments' inflows.

**Chart 5.4: Main Balances of the BoP
(3rd Quarter, 2021; & 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**



Source: Central Bank of Liberia

5.4.1 Direct Investment (net)

Net direct investment (DI) inflows increased by US\$34.2 million to US\$13.8 million (0.4 percent of GDP) against the US\$20.4 million (0.5 percent of GDP) net outflows reported in the preceding quarter, reflecting increase in investment inflows related to shares and other equities of direct investors in direct investment enterprises in Liberia.

5.4.2 Other Investment (net)

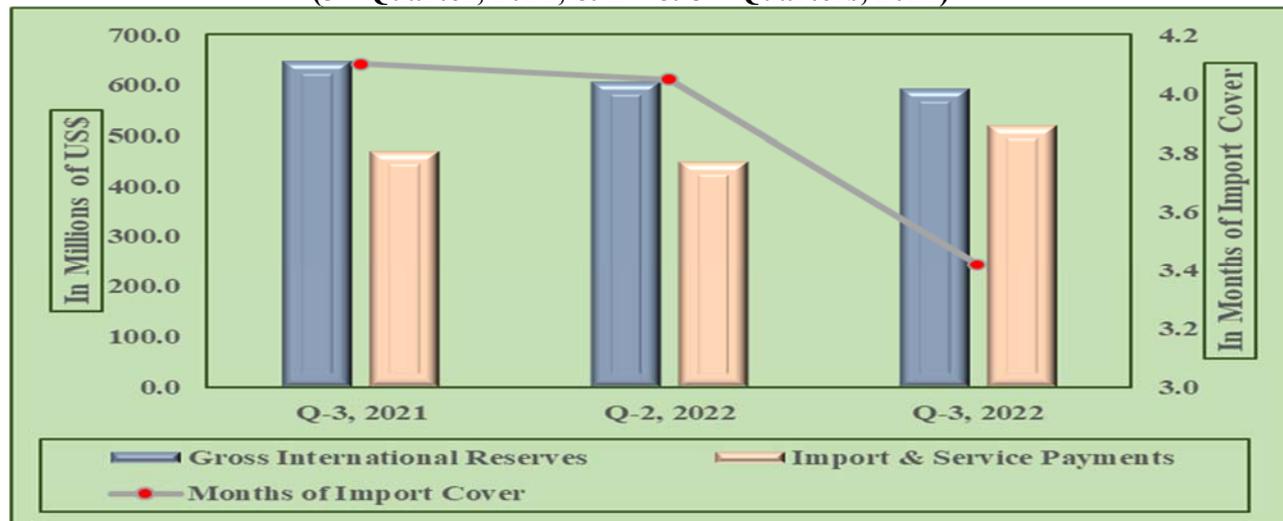
Other investment inflows (net) rose by 91.2 percent to US\$131.3 million (3.3 percent of GDP) in quarter three of 2022, from the US\$68.7 million (1.7 percent of GDP) recorded in the previous quarter. This development largely reflected increases in loans, and trade credit & advances.

5.5 Gross International Reserves (GIR)

From provisional data, Liberia's gross international reserves at end-September 2022 fell by 2.1 percent to US\$594.1 million (15.1 percent of GDP) against the US\$607.1 million (15.4 percent of GDP) reported at end-June 2022. This development reflected decline in foreign liquid assets including Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) holding and reserves, coupled with increase in the CBL's net liquid US dollars liabilities. Consequently, the months of import cover relative to the

GIR decreased to 3.4 months during the review quarter, from the 4.0 months reported in the previous quarter. However, it remained well above the ECOWAS benchmark of 3.0 months.

**Chart 5.5: Gross International Reserves, Imports & Months of Import Cover
(3rd Quarter, 2021; & 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**



Source: Central Bank of Liberia

5.6 Exchange Rate Developments

The change in the average exchange rate remained within tolerable limit of the ECOWAS convergence target (± 10.0 percent). Compared with the rates reported in the previous quarter, the period average exchange rate revealed that the Liberian dollar (L\$) marginally depreciated against the United States dollar by 1.1 percent to L\$153.56/US\$1.00 at end-September 2022, from L\$151.84/US\$1.00 recorded at end-June 2022, while the end-of-period exchange rate also showed slight depreciation of the Liberian dollar by 0.6 percent to L\$153.77/US\$1.00, from L\$152.87/US\$1.00 reported a quarter ago. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 2021, the Liberian dollar appreciated by 11.7 percent on average, from L\$171.54/US\$1.00. It also appreciated by 11.2 percent on end-period basis, from L\$170.93/US\$1.00 during the corresponding period in 2021. The quarterly and yearly appreciations of the Liberian dollar were mainly triggered by the relative effectiveness of CBL’s monetary policy instruments.

**Table 5.3: Market Exchange Rate: Liberia Dollar (LD) per US Dollar
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(Value In L\$)**

	2021		2022		% Change: Depreciation (-) & Appreciation (+)	
	3 rd Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	Q-o-Q	Y-o-Y	
Market Rate End of Period	170.93	152.87	153.77	(0.59)	11.16	
Market Rate Period Average	171.54	151.84	153.56	(1.12)	11.71	
<i>Buying</i>	<i>170.81</i>	<i>151</i>	<i>152.70</i>	<i>(1.11)</i>	<i>11.86</i>	
<i>Selling</i>	<i>172.27</i>	<i>152.68</i>	<i>154.42</i>	<i>(1.12)</i>	<i>11.56</i>	

Source: Central Bank of Liberia

/1 – Period Average Exchange Rate is the average of both the buying & selling rates of the Liberian Dollar relative to the US\$

**Table 5.4: Monthly Average Buying and Selling Rates of Liberian Dollars per US Dollar
(2019-2022)**

Period Average	2020		2021		2022	
	Buying	Selling	Buying	Selling	Buying	Selling
January	191.24	192.89	167.79	169.32	148.88	150.75
February	195.85	197.67	171.82	173.29	152.87	154.64
March	197.02	198.64	172.76	174.18	152.75	154.38
April	197.41	198.83	171.79	173.22	151.23	152.97
May	197.84	199.10	171.03	172.42	150.31	151.98
June	198.52	199.67	170.69	172.09	151.48	153.09
July	198.64	199.81	170.83	172.24	152.28	154.01
August	198.65	199.84	170.98	172.43	152.77	154.46
September	198.39	199.62	170.63	172.14	153.07	154.78
October	192.59	193.85	161.15	162.75		
November	162.10	163.47	143.63	145.23		
December	160.76	162.34	141.81	143.46		
Q1	194.70	196.40	170.79	172.26	151.50	153.26
Q2	197.92	199.20	171.17	172.58	151.00	152.68
Q3	198.56	199.76	170.81	172.27	152.70	154.42
Q4	171.82	173.22	148.86	150.48		
Yearly Ave	190.75	192.14	165.41	166.90	151.74	153.45

Source: Central Bank of Liberia

STATISTICAL APPENDIX

CHAPTER I

Table 1.1: Selected Global Output, 2021-2023

CHAPTER II

Table 2.1: Real Sector Outlook (2019-2023)

Table 2.2: Key Agricultural Production (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Table 2.3: Key Industrial Output (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Table 2.4: Consumption of Petroleum Products (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Table 2.5: Vessel Traffic and Cargo Movements (2nd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Table 2.6: Electric Power Developments (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Table 2.7: Headline and Quarterly changes in CPI (%)

Table 2.8: Inflation by Sub-Group
Year-on-Year Changes in CPI (2020-2022)

Table 2.9: Harmonized Consumer Price Index (HCPI) by Major Groups
Developments (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

CHAPTER III

Table 3.1: Commercial Bank Loans by Economic Sectors (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Table 3.2: Commercial Bank's Interest Rates (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Table 3.3: Commercial Bank's Interest Rates (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Table 3.4: Broad Money Supply and its Sources (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Table 3.5: CBL Bills (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Table 3.6: CBL Bills, Q3-2022

CHAPTER IV

- Table 4.1: Government Revenue (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
- Table 4.2: Government Expenditure (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
- Table 4.3: Liberia's Public Debt Statistics (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

CHAPTER V

- Table 5.1: Directions of Trade (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
- Table 5.2: Balance of Payments Statistics (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
- Table 5.3: Market Exchange Rate: Liberia Dollar (LD) per US Dollar (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
- Table 5.4: Monthly Average Buying and Selling Rates of Liberian Dollars per US Dollar (2019-2022)

Table 1.1: Selected Global Output, 2021-2023

	Estimate	Projections		Difference from Jul 2022 WEO Update	
	2021	2022	2023	2022	2023
World Output	6.0	3.2	2.7	0.0	-0.2
Advanced Economies	5.2	2.4	1.1	-0.1	-0.3
United States	5.7	1.6	1.0	-0.7	0.0
Euro Area	5.2	3.1	0.5	0.5	-0.7
Japan	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	-0.1
United Kingdom	7.4	3.6	0.3	0.4	-0.2
Canada	4.5	3.3	1.5	-0.1	-0.3
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	6.6	3.7	3.7	0.1	-0.2
Emerging and Developing Asia	7.2	4.4	4.9	-0.2	-0.1
China	8.1	3.2	4.4	-0.1	-0.2
India	8.7	6.8	6.1	-0.6	0.0
Latin America and the Caribbean	6.9	3.5	1.7	0.5	-0.3
Brazil	4.6	2.8	1.0	1.1	-0.1
Middle East and Central Asia	4.5	5.0	3.6	0.2	0.1
Sub-Saharan Africa	4.7	3.6	3.7	-0.2	-0.3
Nigeria	3.6	3.2	3.0	-0.2	-0.2
South Africa	4.9	2.1	1.1	-0.2	-0.3
World Consumer Prices	4.7	8.8	6.5	0.5	0.8
Advanced Economies	3.1	7.2	4.4	0.6	1.1
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	5.9	9.9	8.1	0.4	0.8

Source: "International Monetary Fund. October 2022. World Economic Outlook Update: Gloomy and More Uncertain. Washington, DC."

Table 2.1: Real Sector Outlook (2019-2023)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Real GDP	(2.5)	(3.0)	5.0	4.8	4.3
Agriculture & fisheries	2.2	6.4	4.0	1.2	3.3
Forestry	(7.5)	4.6	1.0	1.6	1.2
Mining & panning	13.2	2.0	17.6	14.0	4.6
Manufacturing	(10.5)	0.0	4.7	2.2	4.9
Services	(7.5)	(12.7)	1.9	4.8	5.7

Sources: IMF & Liberian Authorities

Table 2.2: Key Agricultural Production (3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Commodity	Unit	Q ³ -2021	Q ² -2022	Q ³ -2022
Rubber	Mt	21,582	18,800	16,613
Cocoa	Mt	1,171	869	425
Round Logs	M3	165,508	147,619	150,202*
Sawn Timber	Pcs	38,736	48,626	49,210*
Crude Palm Oil (CPO)	Mt	6,685	7,689	4,816

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MOCI); Liberia Produce & Marketing Corporation (LPMC); Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

* Projections

**Table 2.3: Key Industrial Output
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**

Commodity	Unit	Q³-2021	Q²-2022	Q³-2022
Gold	Ounce	49,990	92,476	85,204
Diamond	Carat	14,189	12,391	9,049
Iron Ore	Mt.	1,090,000	1,300,000	1,050,000
Cement	Mt.	119,186	149,463	86,218
Spirits	Litre	54,947	35,183	24,840
Beer	Litre	1,629,591	1,901,253	1,389,884
Stout	Litre	1,955,860	1,960,762	1,740,998
Malta	Litre	191,783	219,447	122,332
Soft Drinks	Litre	218,568	253,860	231,898
Oil Paint	Gal.	22,259	26,513	30,750
Water Paint	Gal.	14,183	16,328	21,909
Varnish	Gal.	9,326	2,709	3,358
Manoline H. Grease	Kg	2,688	4,385	5,116
Thinner	Gal	6,447	2,708	2,114
Rubbing Alcohol	Litre	44,857	64,903	47,868
Soap	Kg	82,744	70,356	57,167
Chlorox	Litre	165,276	214,980	204,038
Candle	Kg	8,358	10,794	9,219
Mattresses	Pcs.	32,614	35,031	27,733
Finished water	Gal.	323,589,758	193,073,928	213,474,456*
Mineral Water	Litre	99,712	62,985	44,415
Electricity	kW	67,172,800	49,509,979	84,116,470

*Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MOCI); Ministry of Lands, Mines & Energy; Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation
Projections

**Table 2.4: Consumption of Petroleum Products
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**

Commodity	Unit	Q ³ -2021	Q ² -2022	Q ³ -2022
Premium Motor Spirit (PMS)	Gal.	7,218,832	4,495,589	5,719,455
Diesel (AGO)	Gal.	5,810,095	4,393,989	5,045,435
Total	Gal.	13,028,927	8,889,578	10,764,890

Source: Liberia Petroleum Refining Company (LPRC)

**Table 2.5: Vessel Traffic and Cargo Movements
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)**

Quarter	No. of Vessels	Vessel Weight (SDWT)	Cargo Tonnage (In Metric Tons)		
			Imports	Exports	Total
Q ³ -2021	76	2,615,437	1,208,021	957,034	2,165,055
Q ² -2022	100	2,258,516	654,400	1,056,019	1,710,419
Q ³ -2022	101	2,978,455	4,428,365	1,330,736	5,759,101

Source: National Port Authority (NPA) SDWT=Summer Dead Weight Tons

**Table 2.6: Electric Power Developments
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Kilowatts)**

	Unit	Service	Generation
Q ³ - 2021	kW	Electricity	67,172,800
Q ² -2022	kW	Electricity	49,509,979
Q ³ -2022	kW	Electricity	84,116,470

Source: Liberia Electricity Corporation

Table 2.7: Headline and Quarterly changes in CPI (%)

	Headline Inflation (Y-on-Y changes)			Monthly Changes in HCPI (%)			
	Combined	Food	Non-Food	Combined	Food	Non-Food	
2018	January	15.50	8.00	20.00	2.40	3.70	1.70
	February	17.80	11.60	21.50	0.60	-0.70	1.20
	March	19.40	17.40	20.70	2.10	3.80	1.10
	April	21.40	20.10	22.10	1.40	1.70	1.30
	May	21.30	19.60	22.20	1.10	0.90	1.20
	June	24.50	22.40	25.80	5.80	4.90	6.30

	July	26.10	23.70	27.50	3.50	2.70	4.00
	August	26.10	23.30	27.70	2.20	2.40	2.00
	September	26.30	25.20	26.90	1.40	2.50	0.70
	October	26.60	24.20	27.90	0.70	-0.40	1.30
	November	27.10	24.90	28.30	2.00	1.80	2.10
	December	28.50	30.50	27.50	2.40	3.80	1.60
2019	January	23.30	30.20	19.72	-1.80	3.40	-4.50
	February	22.00	27.60	19.09	-0.50	-2.60	0.90
	March	25.80	23.40	27.03	5.30	0.40	7.90
	April	23.29	26.50	21.63	-0.59	4.25	-3.03
	May	28.74	29.86	28.17	5.58	3.60	6.66
	June	29.91	32.20	28.71	6.72	6.74	6.71
	July	29.87	31.76	28.85	3.51	2.36	4.11
	August	31.32	34.59	29.60	3.30	4.57	2.64
	September	30.90	33.18	29.72	1.05	1.43	0.84
	October	30.55	32.38	29.56	0.43	-1.02	1.20
	November	26.62	30.51	24.59	-1.10	0.34	-1.85
	December	20.25	23.04	18.81	-2.76	-2.13	-3.09
2020	January	23.56	22.18	24.33	0.93	2.73	-0.03
	February	25.76	25.26	26.02	1.28	-0.17	2.08
	March	21.72	30.48	17.31	1.88	4.59	0.42
	April	22.51	30.24	18.33	0.05	4.05	-2.19
	May	18.36	28.24	13.17	2.01	2.01	2.00
	June	13.14	21.08	8.96	2.00	0.75	2.74
	July	17.06	17.84	16.66	7.10	-0.38	11.47
	August	14.77	16.25	13.99	1.27	3.16	0.29
	September	14.03	14.09	14.00	0.39	-0.46	0.85
	October	13.85	14.85	13.33	0.27	-0.36	0.61
	November	10.39	13.96	8.50	-4.10	-0.44	-6.03
	December	13.12	15.74	11.72	-0.36	-0.60	-0.22
2021	January	12.92	16.31	11.06	0.75	3.23	-0.62
	February	10.50	10.48	10.51	-0.88	-5.16	1.58
	March	9.96	5.01	12.73	1.38	-0.59	2.43
	April	9.41	-2.53	16.52	-0.45	-3.42	1.10
	May	8.16	-4.04	15.43	0.86	0.47	1.05
	June	8.10	-3.95	15.15	1.94	0.84	2.49
	July	7.12	0.21	10.73	6.13	3.94	7.20
	August	7.00	0.10	10.71	1.16	3.04	0.28
	September	6.69	0.18	10.14	0.10	-0.37	0.33
	October	4.42	-2.39	8.00	-1.85	-2.87	-1.35
	November	5.44	-6.58	12.12	-3.17	-4.71	-2.44
	December	5.46	-7.05	12.40	-0.33	-1.10	0.02

2022	January	6.55	-6.79	14.24	1.80	3.51	1.01
	February	7.64	-1.57	12.60	0.13	0.15	0.12
	March	9.51	2.58	13.13	3.14	3.59	2.92
	April	6.26	-2.39	10.57	-3.41	-8.10	-1.19
	May	6.23	1.17	8.74	0.83	4.14	-0.62
	June	6.32	-1.98	10.37	2.03	-2.31	4.02
	July	6.48	-0.98	10.01	6.28	5.00	6.84
	August	7.06	-3.85	12.36	1.71	0.06	2.42
	September	7.21	-5.12	13.19	0.25	-1.74	1.07

Source: CBL & LISGIS, Monrovia, Liberia

**Table 2.8: Inflation by Sub-group
Year-on-Year Changes in CPI
(2020-2022)**

Food	Weights	Inflation Rates			
		2021Q ²	2021Q ³	2022Q ²	2022Q ³
Bread and cereals	10.06	-12.32	-15.80	2.26	3.44
Milk, cheese and eggs	0.68	-4.71	-6.29	-0.41	3.57
Meat	4.82	-0.39	-5.96	-2.53	-0.40
Non-Food					
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	0.65	-8.99	-9.95	0.10	8.10
Clothing and footwear	5.21	-7.61	-7.66	-10.37	-0.95
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other fuels	7.22	0.44	-0.17	4.53	11.25
Furnishing, H/Hold Equip., Routine Maintenance of House	5.21	7.92	0.15	-10.94	-2.67
Health	9.28	40.59	15.46	7.85	-4.22
Transport	7.53	7.07	2.74	21.95	48.23
Communication	3.86	-8.00	5.37	4.66	-9.64
Recreation and Culture	1.03	2.43	4.38	-1.17	-4.80
Education	4.83	33.06	21.68	23.19	6.07
Restaurant and Hotels	17.12	32.03	24.99	16.41	20.44
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	3.98	-12.60	-8.48	2.96	11.79

Source: CBL & LISGIS, Monrovia, Liberia

Table 2.9: Harmonized Consumer Price Index (HCPI) By Major Groups
Year-on-Year Rates of Inflation
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(December, 2005=100)

FUNCTIONS	WEIGHTS	21- Jul	21- Aug	21- Sep	Q³- 2021	22- Apr	22- May	22- Jun	Q²- 2022	22- Jul	22- Aug	22- Sep	Q³- 2022
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	34.08	0.21	0.10	0.14	0.15	-2.39	1.17	-1.98	-1.07	-0.98	-3.85	-5.12	-3.32
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO, AND NARCOTICS	0.65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.57	10.16	9.59	8.10
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	5.21	10.33	-9.68	-9.85	-9.95	-0.04	-0.55	0.89	0.10	-1.51	-1.27	-0.07	-0.95
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	7.22	10.27	-6.11	-6.60	-7.66	15.70	-8.36	-7.05	-10.37	4.51	14.90	14.33	11.25
FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD, EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE MAINTENANCE OF THE HOUSE	5.21	-0.58	0.30	-0.22	-0.17	3.57	3.08	6.93	4.53	-8.42	0.21	0.20	-2.67
HEALTH	9.28	2.64	0.16	-2.34	0.15	-8.30	12.54	11.99	-10.94	-4.52	-4.99	-3.14	-4.22
TRANSPORT	7.53	15.18	15.63	15.57	15.46	11.68	7.13	4.73	7.85	48.71	48.09	47.89	48.23
COMMUNICATION	3.86	4.88	2.17	1.16	2.74	12.95	13.38	39.52	21.95	-9.45	-	-9.43	-9.64
RECREATION AND CULTURE	1.03	5.35	5.40	5.36	5.37	4.84	6.19	2.95	4.66	10.04	-	-	-
EDUCATION	4.83	3.67	4.68	4.77	4.38	-1.82	1.03	-2.71	-1.17	-2.67	-5.93	-5.79	-4.80
RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	17.12	21.83	21.63	21.59	21.68	23.19	23.19	23.19	23.19	6.07	6.03	6.11	6.07
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	3.89	25.84	25.53	23.61	24.99	21.66	16.18	11.39	16.41	18.40	20.56	22.35	20.44
GENERAL RATE OF INFLATION	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.87	14.44	13.06	11.79
		7.12	7.00	6.69	6.94	6.26	6.23	6.32	6.27	6.48	7.06	7.23	6.92

Source: CBL & LISGIS, Monrovia, Liberia

Table 3.1: Commercial Bank Loans by Economic Sectors
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of L\$)

	2021		2022				Contribution to Credit Growth	
	Q3	Share	Q2	Share	Q3	Share	Q-o-Q	Y-o-Y
Agriculture	3,652.93	4.63	3,067.76	4.09	2,605.97	3.29	(0.62)	(1.33)
Extractive (Mining & Quarrying)	263.32	0.33	123.66	0.17	181.54	0.23	0.08	(0.10)
Manufacturing	3,944.38	5.00	4,801.07	6.41	2,508.74	3.16	(3.06)	(1.82)
Construction	10,062.98	12.74	6,733.19	8.99	6,417.43	8.09	(0.42)	(4.62)
Services	12,510.67	15.84	12,463.82	16.63	15,826.35	19.96	4.49	4.20
Trade	25,865.83	32.76	23,883.99	31.88	21,204.42	26.74	(3.58)	(5.90)
Personal	10,901.66	13.81	10,663.05	14.23	16,341.41	20.61	7.58	6.89
Gen. Government	14.76	0.02	107.08	0.14	112.28	0.14	0.01	0.12
Central Bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Corporations	3,325.96	4.21	1,680.85	2.24	936.16	1.18	(0.99)	(3.03)
Oil and Gas	5,148.01	6.52	3,357.39	4.48	2,336.61	2.95	(1.36)	(3.56)
Others	3,275.40	4.15	8,043.53	10.74	10,823.21	13.65	3.71	9.56
Total Loan All Sectors (LD & USD)	78,965.89	100.00	74,925.39	100.00	79,294.13	100.00	5.83	0.42
<i>O/W TOTAL Private Sector (LD & USD)</i>	<i>75,625.18</i>	<i>95.77</i>	<i>73,137.46</i>	<i>97.61</i>	<i>78,245.69</i>	<i>98.68</i>	<i>6.82</i>	<i>3.32</i>

Source: Central Bank of Liberia

Table 3.2: Commercial Bank's Interest Rates
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

	2021		2022
	Q ³	Q ²	Q ³
Avg. Lending Rate	12.44	12.44	12.44
Avg. Personal Loan Rate	12.78	12.78	12.78
Avg. Mortgage Rate	13.22	13.38	13.38
Avg. Time Deposit Rate	3.53	3.53	3.53
Avg. Savings Rate	2.10	2.10	2.10
Avg. Rate on CDs	3.25	3.25	3.25

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

**Table 3.3: Commercial Bank's Interest Rates
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions L\$)**

	2021		2022
	3 rd Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter
Currency in Banks	1,112.56	3,330.03	2,138.89
Currency outside Banks	21,310.57	19,489.15	19,828.79
Currency in Circulation	22,423.12	22,819.18	21,967.69

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

**Table 3.4: Broad Money Supply and its Sources
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of L\$)**

Monetary Aggregates	2021		2022		Percentage Change	
	3 rd Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	Q-o-Q	Y-o-Y	
1.0 Money Supply M2 (1.1 + 1.2)	144,804.16	144,513.81	152,280.14	5.37	5.16	
1.1 Money Supply M1	100,264.54	99,356.38	106,104.40	6.79	5.82	
1.1.1 Currency outside banks	21,310.57	19,489.15	19,828.79	1.74	-6.95	
1.1.2 Demand deposit 1/	78,953.97	79,867.24	86,275.61	8.02	9.27	
1.2 Quasi Money	44,539.62	45,157.43	46,175.74	2.26	3.67	
1.2.1 Time & Savings deposits	44,144.07	44,827.31	45,874.05	2.34	3.92	
1.2.2 Other deposits 2/	395.55	330.12	301.68	-8.61	-23.73	
2.0 Net Foreign Assets	25,140.22	23,103.53	16,263.94	-29.60	-35.31	
2.1 Central Bank	(1,687.09)	6,843.48	2,858.52	-58.23	-269.43	
2.2 Banking Institutions	26,827.31	16,260.04	13,405.42	-17.56	-50.03	
3.0 Net Domestic Assets (1 - 2)	119,663.94	121,410.29	136,016.20	12.03	13.67	
3.1 Domestic Credit	186,540.26	175,391.45	190,152.65	8.42	1.94	
3.1.1 Government (net)	94,379.59	85,456.61	98,984.91	15.83	4.88	
3.1.2 Pvt. Sector & Other Pvt.	92,160.66	89,934.84	91,167.74	1.37	-1.08	
3.2 Other assets Net (3 - 3.1)	66,876.31	53,981.16	54,136.45	0.29	-19.05	
Memorandum Items						
1. Overall Liquidity	144,804.16	144,513.81	152,280.14	5.37	5.16	

2. Reserve Money	46,112.29	47,078.66	55,740.03	18.40	20.88
<i>Currency in Circulation</i>	22,423.12	22,819.18	21,967.69	-3.73	-2.03
<i>Banks Reserves</i>	23,293.62	23,929.37	33,470.66	39.87	43.69
<i>Other Deposits at CBL</i>	395.55	330.12	301.68	-8.61	-23.73

Source: Central Bank of Liberia

1/Excludes managers cheques from commercial banks

2/ Includes official and managers checks issued by the Central Bank

Table 3.5: CBL Bills
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of L\$)

First Issuance Date	Last Maturity Date	Amount Issued	Average Interest Rate (%)
2 WEEKS			
1-Jul-22	14-Oct-22	293.30	0.67
1 MONTH			
1-Jul-22	28-Oct-22	7,573.50	0.50
3 MONTHS			
1-Jul-22	30-Dec-22	5,610.75	1.33
Total Amount Issued		13,477.54	
2nd Quarter, 2022			
First Issuance Date	Last Maturity Date	Amount Issued	Average Interest Rate (%)
2 WEEKS			
1-Apr-22	14-Apr-22	0.43	0.70
1 MONTH			
1-Apr-22	29-Apr-22	7,345.78	0.80
3 MONTHS			
1-Apr-22	1-Jul-22	4,568.27	2.78
Total Amount Issued		11,914.48	
3rd Quarter, 2021			
First Issuance Date	Last Maturity Date	Amount Issued	Average Interest Rate (%)
2 WEEKS			
2-Jul-21	8-Oct-21	4.32	0.09
1 MONTH			

2-Jul-21	22-Oct-21	7,097.35	1.75
3 MONTHS			
2-Jul-21	24-Dec-21	4,077.90	5.33
Total Amount Issued		11,179.57	

Source: Central Bank of Liberia

**Table 3.6: CBL Bills, Q3-2022
(In Millions of LS)**

Issuance Date	Maturity Date	Unsubscribed Amount	Commercial Banks Issued	Retail Via Commercial Banks Issued	Amount Issued	Interest Rate (%)
THREE MONTHS						
1-Jul-22	30-Sep-22	-	371.55	13.09	384.64	0.32
8-Jul-22	7-Oct-22	-	469.39	24.66	494.05	0.30
15-Jul-22	14-Oct-22	-	317.89	7.23	325.12	0.14
22-Jul-22	21-Oct-22	-	371.60	11.97	383.57	0.19
29-Jul-22	28-Oct-22	-	368.65	5.89	374.55	0.01
5-Aug-22	4-Nov-22	-	441.37	25.71	467.07	0.54
12-Aug-22	11-Nov-22	-	305.99	23.58	329.58	1.30
19-Aug-22	18-Nov-22	-	248.90	10.43	259.33	1.06
26-Aug-22	25-Nov-22	-	306.50	9.97	316.47	0.84
2-Sep-22	2-Dec-22	-	708.29	11.68	719.97	1.44
9-Sep-22	9-Dec-22	-	556.42	76.93	633.35	2.42
16-Sep-22	16-Dec-22	-	278.53	9.07	287.61	2.77
23-Sep-22	23-Dec-22	-	274.34	11.11	285.45	3.72
30-Sep-22	30-Dec-22	-	347.35	2.65	350.00	3.52
TOTAL		-	5,366.77	243.99	5,610.75	1.33
ONE MONTHS						
1-Jul-22	29-Jul-22	-	659.93	4.79	664.72	0.03
8-Jul-22	5-Aug-22	-	850.76	3.01	853.77	0.02
15-Jul-22	12-Aug-22	-	541.04	21.04	562.08	0.07
22-Jul-22	19-Aug-22	-	400.00	1.22	401.22	0.02
29-Jul-22	26-Aug-22	-	641.22	2.73	643.95	0.01

5-Aug-22	2-Sep-22	-	793.25	9.41	802.66	0.28
12-Aug-22	9-Sep-22	-	555.68	10.69	566.37	0.55
19-Aug-22	16-Sep-22	-	442.71	2.94	445.65	0.51
26-Aug-22	23-Sep-22	-	543.84	-	543.84	0.55
2-Sep-22	30-Sep-22	-	465.00	18.07	483.07	0.99
9-Sep-22	7-Oct-22	-	300.00	0.12	300.12	0.95
16-Sep-22	14-Oct-22	-	479.70	0.13	479.83	1.09
23-Sep-22	21-Oct-22	-	475.08	1.15	476.23	0.89
30-Sep-22	28-Oct-22	-	346.42	3.58	350.00	1.09
TOTAL		-	7,494.62	78.88	7,573.50	0.50
TWO WEEKS						
1-Jul-22	15-Jul-22	-	-	0.05	0.05	0.70
8-Jul-22	22-Jul-22	-	-	0.05	0.05	0.70
15-Jul-22	29-Jul-22	-	-	0.17	0.17	0.70
29-Jul-22	12-Aug-22	-	-	0.18	0.18	0.70
2-Sep-22	16-Sep-22	-	-	0.14	0.14	0.70
30-Sep-22	14-Oct-22	-	292.71	-	292.71	0.51
TOTAL		-	292.71	0.58	293.30	0.67
TOTAL AMOUNT ISSUED					13,477.54	

Source: Central Bank of Liberia

Table 4.1: Government Revenue
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of US\$)

Fiscal Operations	Q ³ -21	Q ² -22	Q ³ -22	Q-O-Q	Y-O-Y
	(Millions of USD)			(% Change)	
Total Government Revenue	169.42	237.86	142.92	(39.91)	(15.64)
Tax Revenue	115.03	129.25	122.88	(4.92)	6.83
o/w Taxes on Income & Profits	45.57	52.88	52.99	0.20	16.28
o/w Taxes on International Trade	58.35	52.15	53.31	2.24	(8.64)
Non-tax Revenue	20.21	57.66	18.81	(67.37)	(6.91)
o/w Property Income	16.33	52.84	14.19	(73.15)	(13.13)
o/w Administrative Fees & Penalties	3.88	4.82	4.62	(4.04)	19.26
Other Revenue (Grants, Borrowings & etc.)	34.18	50.96	1.22	(97.60)	(96.42)
Memorandum Items					

Total Revenue (% of GDP)	4.83	5.96	3.58	-	-
Tax Revenue (% of GDP)	3.28	3.24	3.08	-	-
Non-tax Revenue (% of GDP)	0.58	1.44	0.47	-	-
Other Revenues (% of GDP)	0.97	1.28	0.03	-	-
<i>GDP (In Millions of USD)</i>	3508.86	3992.07	3992.07	-	-

Source: CBL's Computation Using MFDP's Data

**Table 4.2: Government Expenditure
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of US\$)**

Fiscal Operations	Q ³ -2021	Q ² -2022	Q ³ -2022	Q-O-Q	Y-O-Y
	(Millions of USD)			(% Change)	
Total Expenditure	149.32	222.80	230.54	3.47	54.39
Current Expenditure	118.83	188.45	190.39	1.03	60.22
o/w Employee Compensation	55.55	67.03	63.20	(5.71)	13.77
o/w Goods & Services	43.40	86.87	98.31	13.16	126.53
Capital Expenditure	0.34	6.53	9.28	42.15	2608.12
Payments Loan & Interest & other Charges	30.15	27.82	30.87	10.96	2.40
Memorandum Items					
Total Expenditure (% of GDP)	4.26	5.58	5.77	-	-
Current Expenditure (% of GDP)	3.39	4.72	4.77	-	-
Capital Expenditure (% of GDP)	0.01	0.16	0.23	-	-
Payments on loans & other Charges (% of GDP)	0.86	0.70	0.77	-	-
<i>GDP (In Millions of USD)</i>	3,508.86	3,992.07	3,992.07	-	-

Source: CBL's Computation Using MFDP's Data

NB: GOL's expenditure is reported on cash basis.

Table 4.3: Liberia's Public Debt Statistics
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(In Millions of US\$)

Fiscal Operations	Q ² -2021	Q ¹ -2022	Q ² -2022	Q-O-Q	Y-O-Y
	(Millions of USD)			(% Change)	
Total Debt Stock	1687.93	1914.97	1957.36	2.21	15.96
External	995.69	1097.23	1121.57	2.22	12.64
o/w Multilateral	882.28	984.16	1009.85	2.61	14.46
o/w Bilateral	113.41	113.07	111.72	(1.19)	(1.50)
Domestic	692.24	817.74	835.79	2.21	20.74
o/w Financial Institutions	621.44	747.56	770.06	3.01	23.92
o/w CBL	525.48	575.48	575.48	0.00	9.52
o/w Commercial Banks	95.96	172.08	194.58	13.08	102.78
o/w Other Debts	70.80	70.18	65.73	(6.35)	(7.17)
Memorandum Items					
Total Debt Stock (% of GDP)	48.10	47.97	49.03	-	-
External (% of GDP)	28.38	27.49	28.09	-	-
Domestic Debt (% of GDP)	19.73	20.48	20.94	-	-
Debt Service (% of GDP)	0.05	0.11	0.10	-	-
GDP (In Millions of USD)	3,508.86	3,992.07	3,992.07	-	-

Source: CBL's Computation Using MFDP's Data

Table 5.1: Directions of Trade
(In Millions of US\$, except otherwise indicated)
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

Direction of Trade by Region	Q – 3, 2021		Q – 2, 2022 ^r		Q – 3, 2022 ^p	
	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import
Africa	4.66	95.27	9.87	130.07	10.11	147.42
o/w ECOWAS	2.73	79.16	3.71	112.99	3.70	132.04
o/w NC ¹	2.46	74.19	2.78	107.16	1.61	125.34
o/w Sierra Leone	2.46	1.98	2.78	0.5	0.00	0.54
o/w Guinea	0.00	1.02	0.00	1.11	1.53	1.83
o/w Cote D'Ivoire	0.00	72.21	0	105.54	0.07	62.76
Asia	14.37	189.06	10.82	138.43	11.67	177.15
o/w China	0.11	59.75	0.17	39.3	0.96	65.32
o/w India	1.17	37.15	3.86	42.07	5.37	33.56
o/w ME ² Countries	4.43	25.89	3.0	23.18	3.07	24.58
o/w Israel	0.52	0.74	1.14	0.00	2.45	0.13
o/w UAE	4.19	25.88	1.68	10.64	0.61	10.62
Europe	169.80	58.19	231.51	39.74	185.18	54.91
o/w Netherlands	0.99	5.00	1.36	5.95	0.00	6.64

o/w Switzerland	60.770	0.44	144.84	0.05	127.93	0.00
o/w Eurozone	32.69	45.11	15.46	29.45	57.26	47.27
o/w United Kingdom	32.67	2.43	15.46	6.83	9.17	11.38
o/w Spain	0.00	2.44	2.25	3.50	3.92	1.68
o/w Belgium	7.18		9.86	2.09	9.49	4.07
N. America & The Caribbean	21.74	31.41	13.02	18.11	24.41	15.27
o/w USA	21.74	17.91	13.02	13.35	24.41	9.19
South & Central America	0.89	10.39	0.34	9.76	0.25	8.76
o/w Mexico	0.77	1.16	0.14	0.66	0.25	0.70
o/w Brazil	0.12	7.11	0.2	5.31	0.00	3.80
o/w Argentina	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.08	0.00	0.36
Oceania	0.00	2.82	0.00	0.72	0.00	0.57
o/w Australia	0.00	0.37	0.00	0.44	0.00	0.21
Other Countries (n.i.e)	2.65	0.00	42.04	0.00	32.5	0.00
Total of DOT	214.12	376.76	307.62	336.83	264.2	404.07

*Source: Liberia Revenue Authority (CUSTOM ASYCUDA), Firestone Liberia, Total Liberia, Ministry of Lands, Mines & Energy
r-revised, p-provisional /1 - neighboring countries (these include Ivory Coast, Guinea, and Sierra Leone) /2 – Middle Eastern Countries*

Table 5.2: Balance of Payments Statistics
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)

	2021		2022		2022	
	Q-3	Q-2r	Q-3p	Q-3	Q-2r	Q-3p
Balance of Payments (BOP)	In Millions, US\$			In % of GDP		
Current Account (CA)	-207.9	-72.5	-184.7	-5.9	-1.8	-4.7
Credit	304.1	392.2	361.4	8.7	10.0	9.2
Debit	512.0	464.8	546.1	14.6	11.8	13.9
Goods and services	-224.7	-91.9	-203.8	-6.4	-2.3	-5.2
Credit	217.6	311.2	268.0	6.2	7.9	6.8
Debit	442.3	403.1	471.8	12.6	10.2	12.0
Goods Account (Trade Balance)	-162.6	-29.2	-139.9	-4.6	-0.7	-3.6
Credit (Exports)	214.1	307.6	264.2	6.1	7.8	6.7
<i>Iron Ore</i>	<i>100.3</i>	<i>77.4</i>	<i>67.5</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>1.7</i>
<i>Rubber</i>	<i>28.9</i>	<i>26.9</i>	<i>33.8</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.9</i>
<i>Minerals</i>	<i>68.3</i>	<i>151.6</i>	<i>136.5</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>3.9</i>	<i>3.5</i>
<i>Gold</i>	<i>63.9</i>	<i>146.1</i>	<i>130.5</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>3.7</i>	<i>3.3</i>
<i>Diamond</i>	<i>4.4</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>6.0</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.2</i>
<i>Palm oil</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>10.8</i>	<i>10.8</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.3</i>
<i>Round Logs</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>32.9</i>	<i>1.5</i>			
<i>Other Exports</i>	<i>9.1</i>	<i>8.0</i>	<i>14.1</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.4</i>
Debit (Imports, fob)	376.8	336.8	404.1	10.7	8.6	10.3
<i>Food and Live Animals (including Animals & Veg. Oil)</i>	<i>68.6</i>	<i>71.5</i>	<i>79.8</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>2.0</i>
<i>O/w Rice</i>	<i>22.2</i>	<i>16.3</i>	<i>14.1</i>	<i>0.6</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.4</i>
<i>Minerals, Fuel, Lubricants</i>	<i>83.5</i>	<i>123.7</i>	<i>138.1</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>3.1</i>	<i>3.5</i>
<i>O/w Petroleum Products</i>	<i>71.6</i>	<i>105.4</i>	<i>28.1</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>0.7</i>
<i>Machinery & Transport Equipment</i>	<i>100.6</i>	<i>62.4</i>	<i>81.7</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>2.1</i>
<i>Manufactured goods classified by materials</i>	<i>49.8</i>	<i>31.1</i>	<i>48.1</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>1.2</i>
<i>Chemicals & Related Products</i>	<i>48.2</i>	<i>30.6</i>	<i>36.4</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>0.9</i>
<i>Other Imports</i>	<i>26.1</i>	<i>17.5</i>	<i>20.1</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.5</i>
General merchandise on a balance of payments basis	-226.6	-175.3	-270.3	-6.5	-4.5	-6.9
Credit	150.2	161.5	133.7	4.3	4.1	3.4
Debit	376.8	336.8	404.1	10.7	8.6	10.3
<i>Of which Re-exports (credit)</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>
Nonmonetary gold	63.9	146.1	130.5	1.8	3.7	3.3
Credit	63.9	146.1	130.5	1.8	3.7	3.3
Debit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Services (net)	-62.1	-62.7	-63.9	-1.8	-1.6	-1.6
Credit	3.5	3.6	3.8	0.1	0.1	0.1
Debit	65.6	66.2	67.7	1.9	1.7	1.7
Primary Income (net)	-32.1	-27.2	-28.6	-0.9	-0.7	-0.7

Credit	6.9	5.0	5.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Debit	39.1	32.3	33.9	1.1	0.8	0.9
Secondary Income (net)	49.0	46.5	47.8	1.4	1.2	1.2
Credit	79.5	76.0	88.1	2.3	1.9	2.2
Debit	30.6	29.4	40.3	0.9	0.7	1.0
Capital Account (KA)	14.1	130.1	119.8	0.4	3.3	3.0
Credit	14.1	130.1	119.8	0.4	3.3	3.0
Debit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net lending (+) / net borrowing (-) (CA & KA)	-193.8	57.5	-64.8	-5.5	1.5	-1.6
Financial Account (FA)						
Net lending (+) / net borrowing (-) (balance from FA)	-388.6	-48.2	-145.1	-11.1	-1.2	-3.7
Direct Investment (DI)	-2.1	20.4	-13.8	-0.1	0.5	-0.4
Net acquisition of financial assets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net incurrence of liabilities	2.1	-20.4	13.8	0.1	-0.5	0.4
Other Investment (OI)	-386.5	-68.7	-131.3	-11.0	-1.7	-3.3
Net acquisition of financial assets	-16.6	-52.2	-36.0	-0.5	-1.3	-0.9
Net incurrence of liabilities	369.9	16.5	95.3	10.5	0.4	2.4
<i>Net Errors & Omissions (NEO)</i>	<i>-538.1</i>	<i>-98.6</i>	<i>-54.8</i>	<i>-15.3</i>	<i>-2.5</i>	<i>-1.4</i>
Overall Balance (OB)	343.3	-7.1	-25.4	9.8	-0.2	-0.6
Financing	-343.3	7.1	25.4	-9.8	0.2	0.6
Changes in Reserve Assets (-increase; +decrease)	-343.3	7.1	25.4	-9.8	0.2	0.6
<i>Memorandum Items</i>						
<i>Gross International Reserves</i>	<i>649.1</i>	<i>607.1</i>	<i>594.1</i>	<i>8.6</i>	<i>15.4</i>	<i>15.1</i>
<i>Import cover</i>	<i>4.1</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Imports (cif)</i>	<i>405.1</i>	<i>383.8</i>	<i>453.5</i>	<i>11.5</i>	<i>9.7</i>	<i>11.5</i>
<i>Service Payments</i>	<i>65.6</i>	<i>66.2</i>	<i>67.7</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>1.7</i>
<i>Total Imports of Goods/Services</i>	<i>470.7</i>	<i>450.1</i>	<i>521.2</i>	<i>13.4</i>	<i>11.4</i>	<i>13.2</i>
<i>Current Account Bal. Excl. Grants</i>	<i>-208.9</i>	<i>-73.5</i>	<i>-188.7</i>	<i>-6.0</i>	<i>-1.9</i>	<i>-4.8</i>
<i>End-of-Period</i>	<i>170.9</i>	<i>152.9</i>	<i>153.8</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Period Average</i>	<i>171.5</i>	<i>151.8</i>	<i>153.6</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Annual Nominal GDP market prices</i>	<i>3,508.9</i>	<i>3,937.6</i>	<i>3,937.6</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>

Source: Central Bank of Liberia staff

r - revised; p - provisional

† NGDP is based on the 2022 ECF Review Mission.

**Table 5.3: Market Exchange Rate: Liberia Dollar (LD) per US Dollar
(3rd Quarter, 2021; 2nd & 3rd Quarters, 2022)
(Value In L\$)**

	2021		2022		% Change: Depreciation (-) & Appreciation (+)	
	3 rd Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	Q-o-Q	Y-o-Y	
Market Rate End of Period	170.93	152.87	153.77	(0.59)	11.16	
Market Rate Period Average	171.54	151.84	153.56	(1.12)	11.71	
<i>Buying</i>	<i>170.81</i>	<i>151</i>	<i>152.70</i>	<i>(1.11)</i>	<i>11.86</i>	
<i>Selling</i>	<i>172.27</i>	<i>152.68</i>	<i>154.42</i>	<i>(1.12)</i>	<i>11.56</i>	

Source: Central Bank of Liberia

/1 – Period Average Exchange Rate is the average of both the buying & selling rates of the Liberian Dollar relative to the US\$

**Table 5.4: Monthly Average Buying and Selling Rates of Liberian Dollars per US Dollar
(2019-2022)**

Period Average	2020		2021		2022	
	Buying	Selling	Buying	Selling	Buying	Selling
January	191.24	192.89	167.79	169.32	148.88	150.75
February	195.85	197.67	171.82	173.29	152.87	154.64
March	197.02	198.64	172.76	174.18	152.75	154.38
April	197.41	198.83	171.79	173.22	151.23	152.97
May	197.84	199.10	171.03	172.42	150.31	151.98
June	198.52	199.67	170.69	172.09	151.48	153.09
July	198.64	199.81	170.83	172.24	152.28	154.01
August	198.65	199.84	170.98	172.43	152.77	154.46
September	198.39	199.62	170.63	172.14	153.07	154.78
October	192.59	193.85	161.15	162.75		
November	162.10	163.47	143.63	145.23		
December	160.76	162.34	141.81	143.46		
Q1	194.70	196.40	170.79	172.26	151.50	153.26
Q2	197.92	199.20	171.17	172.58	151.00	152.68
Q3	198.56	199.76	170.81	172.27	152.70	154.42
Q4	171.82	173.22	148.86	150.48		
Yearly Ave	190.75	192.14	165.41	166.90	151.74	153.45

Source: Central Bank of Liberia