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## 

The overall performance of the economy was slower than expected during the third quarter. This is a reflection of the lower estimated GDP growth rate of $7.1^{1}$ percent, from 9.4 percent for 2008. The downward adjustment was largely influenced by delays in the commencement of logging and mining activities. The agriculture sector, the traditional prime driver of growth, dampened during the quarter as rubber production declined by 19.7 percent compared with the previous quarter. Activities of the industrial sector portrayed a mixed result, with a 15.2 percent decline in the output of gold while diamond production rose by 35.2 percent. Except for cement and paints, the manufacturing sub-sector showed a slowdown during the quarter due to high cost of imported raw materials and electric-power generation. Average rate of inflation rose by 5.0 percentage points, from 17.6 percent in the second quarter to 22.6 percent in the third quarter. Inflation was driven mainly by the food ( 32.0 percent) and transport ( 58.5 percent) sub-groups.

The banking sector generally showed an improvement during the third quarter as shown by the prudential indicators. The banks’ Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) exceeded the minimum requirement of 8.0 percent with a record 23.3 percent at end of the quarter. Gross loan portfolio and total assets of the industry grew by 14.7 percent and 9.3 percent, respectively. Expansion in the banking industry continued during the reporting quarter. One bank was licensed while provisional licenses were granted to two international banking institutions. Banking services were extended in Margibi and Maryland counties through the opening of bank branches. A total of 33 commercial bank branches and windows are now opened in 5 counties across the country.

Credit by commercial banks to the economy grew by 14.5 percent, from L $\$ 5,211.0$ million at end-June to L\$5,969.1 million at end-September, 2008. Credit to all other sectors, with the exception of construction, registered increases. Banks’ loans to the Agriculture sector rose by 51.7 percent; Manufacturing, 24.8 percent; Transportation, Storage \& Communication, 11.9 percent; Trade, Hotel \& Restaurant, 27.7 percent, and the "Others" sector, by 6.6 percent during the reporting period.

[^0]Currency in circulation rose slightly by 0.6 percent, from $\mathrm{L} \$ 3,336.7$ million at end-June to $\mathrm{L} \$ 3,358.7$ million at the end of the third quarter, 2008. Currency outside banks, unlike currency in banks, declined by 0.4 percent, a demonstration of growing public confidence in the banking system. The 14.5 percent growth in money supply (M1) was mainly driven by a rise of 20.7 percent in demand deposits. Money supply was broadly characterized by steady rise when compared to the corresponding period of 2007. Broad money (M2) rose by 10.4 percent to L\$15,389.2 million at end of the review quarter, from $\mathrm{L} \$ 13,937.9$ million at end of the previous quarter. The growth in broad money was largely due to an 8.9 percent rise in savings deposits.

The exchange rate remained relatively stable during the quarter at $\mathrm{L} \$ 63.50$ to US $\$ 1.00$. The relative broad stability of the Liberian-to-US dollar exchange rate was mainly influenced by the ongoing weekly CBL's foreign exchange auction program. The CBL, through the auction program, sold a total amount of US $\$ 6.5$ million, US $\$ 1.5$ million less when compared with the level recorded for the last quarter. Both inward and outward remittances grew by 40.9 percent and 47.5 percent, respectively. For the quarter, net flow was recorded at US $\$ 15.5$ million.

Government aggregate revenue declined to L\$3,003.2 million at end-September, from L\$3,662.1 million at end-June 2008 ( 18.0 percent fall). Of the overall, Customs \& Excise Taxes contributed 47.2 percent, Direct Taxes (30.8 percent) and Indirect Taxes (12.9 percent). FDA Levy, Petroleum Sales Levy, Maritime and Grants, combined accounted for 9.2 percent of total Government revenue.

Aggregate Government expenditure for the quarter under review amounted to L\$3,614.9 million. Expenditure slightly increased by 1.6 percent over the previous quarter. However, when compared with the corresponding period of 2007, expenditure increased by 25.7 percent at endSeptember, 2008. General Administration, Social \& Community Services, and Other expenditures accounted for 40.8 percent, 24.1 percent, and 30.6 percent of total Government spending, respectively.

At end of the quarter, total stock of public debt stood at US\$4,262.9 million. Of this amount, domestic debt accounted for 21.2 and external debt, 78.8 percent.

The trade deficit widened during the quarter, from US\$97.2 million at end of the second quarter to US $\$ 202.2$ million at end of the third quarter. The net trade position worsened by 67.7 percent during the quarter against the second quarter of 2008. The cost of imports rose by 41.7 percent, from US $\$ 188.1$ million at end-June, to US $\$ 266.5$ million at end-September, 2008. This trend was on account of rise in demand for imported merchandise for the ensuing festive season. Export receipts accrued to the economy declined by 4.9 percent to US $\$ 64.3$ million at end of the quarter, from US $\$ 67.6$ million at end of the second quarter of the year.

### 1.1 Introduction

The rate of growth of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for 2008 was initially estimated at 9.4 percent, but was later scaled down to 8.8 percent and later to 7.1 percent, primarily due to delays in the commencement of logging activities and exploitation of mineral deposits (i.e., iron ore, diamond) in the economy. Even though the economy has enormous growth potentials, it is reeling from the throes of the civil war that largely devastated every sector of the country. Production activities in the real sector during the quarter exhibited mixed results, with the production of some key commodities increasing, while others declined.

### 1.2 Sectoral Performance

### 1.2.1 Agriculture

Agricultural production during the quarter was low. This was largely on account of heavy seasonal rainfall, inadequate supply of basic agricultural inputs, and poor condition of basic economic infrastructure.

Table 1: Key Agricultural Production
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

| Commodity | Unit | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007 | $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter, 2008 | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2008 |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Rubber | Mt | 34,952 | 22,700 | 18,229 |
| Cocoa | Mt | $285^{*}$ | 265 | 915 |
| Coffee | Mt | - | 18 | 75 |
| Round Logs | $\mathrm{M}^{3}$ | - | - | - |
| Sawn Timber | Pcs | 153,798 | 289,732 | 200,720 |

*Estimates
Sources: Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS); Forestry Development Authority (FDA); Ministry of Commerce \& Industry; Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation (LPMC), and National Port Authority (NPA), Monrovia, Liberia

Chart 1: Key Agricultural Production ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; 2 ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Metric Tons)


## a. Rubber

Rubber production declined during the quarter to 18,229 metric tons, from 22,700 metric tons recorded for the second quarter, a 19.7 percent fall in production. There are a number of factors responsible for the decline in production including the aging of rubber trees, sporadic skirmishes on some major plantations between plantation security and illicit rubber tappers, etc. Current rubber production is 47.8 percent lower than the production a year ago. (Table 1)

## b. Cocoa

There was a marked increase in cocoa production during the quarter. Production rose from 265 metric tons in the preceding quarter to 915 metric tons in the reporting quarter, indicating a rise of 650 metric tons. Growth in production was partly on account of improved security patrol along the border of Liberia with neighboring countries, which is helping to prevent smuggling of agriculture produce.

## c. Coffee

Coffee production gained momentum during the quarter, totaling 75.0 metric tons. The production level rose by 57.0 metric tons higher than the production level of the preceding quarter. The increase was largely attributed to the security measure put in place preventing illegal cross-border trade, especially trade in agricultural commodities.

## d. Sawn Timber

Output of sawn timber fell by 30.7 percent during the quarter, from 289,732 pieces in the previous quarter to 200,720 pieces in the reporting quarter. The rainy season generally contributed to the decline in production. Production of the quarter exceeded that of the corresponding quarter of 2007 by 30.5 percent.

### 1.3 Industrial Production

The industrial sector comprises mining and manufacturing activities, and it produces mainly wood-based, cement, and chemical products which are intended for the domestic market. The development of the sector was inhibited by a number of factors, including inadequacy of public electric-generating system, shortage of skilled manpower, rising cost of imported raw materials, poor condition of economic infrastructure, etc.

## a. Mining (Gold \& Diamond)

The output of gold declined by 15.2 percent to 4,340 ounces at end of the quarter, from 5,117 ounces in the previous quarter. The decline in gold production is generally on account of a substantial shift of resources (financial and human) from gold mining to diamond production because of the higher returns to diamond. Annual comparison indicates that gold production during the quarter is 48.9 percent more than the corresponding quarter of 2007 (Table 2).

## b. Diamond

Production of diamond rose to 17,329 carats during the quarter, from 12,821 carats in the preceding quarter. The 35.2 percent increase in diamond production is generally attributed to the influx of miners to diamond mining, shifting resources from gold production.

## c. Manufacturing Output

Performance of the manufacturing sector exhibited a general downturn during the quarter, except for cement and paint production. The slowdown in manufacturing is partly a result of the high cost of imported raw materials and inadequate supply of public electricity.

## i. Cement

Cement output recorded a rise of 28.1 percent to 23,561 metric tons during the quarter, from 18,391 metric tons in the second quarter. Growing demand for the commodity in this reconstruction period partly induced the rise in production. Moreover, the increase in
production was made possible with the sale of the imported cement, which created adequate space for storage for domestic output. Production for the quarter declined by 43.0 percent when matched against the cement produced a year earlier.

## ii. Beverages

During the quarter, beverage output registered an increase of 2.3 percent to 4.5 million liters, from 4.4 million liters in the preceding quarter. The rise in production was mainly driven by high domestic demand for the commodity.

Of the aggregate beverages produced during the quarter, alcoholic beverages (spirit, beer, stout) represented 66.7 percent, while non-alcoholic beverages (soft drink, malta) constituted 33.3 percent.

Table 2: Key Industrial Output

| (3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Commodity | Unit | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} \text { Quarter, } \\ 2007 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2^{\text {nd }} \text { Quarter, } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} \text { Quarter, } \\ 2008 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| Diamond | Carat | 2,886 | 12,821 | 17,329 |
| Gold | Ounce | 2,915 | 5,117 | 4,340 |
| Cement | Mt | 41,354 | 18,391 | 23,561 |
| Spirit | Litre | 281,193 | 238,000 | 341,368 |
| Beer | Litre | 1,537,751 | 2,134,282 | 1,698,069 |
| Stout | Litre | 753,002 | 776,152 | 980,757 |
| Malta | Litre | 223,732 | 269,494 | 222,449 |
| Soft Drinks | Litre | 1,847,974 | 978,422 | 1,242,792 |
| Oil Paint | Gal. | 6,423 | 1,032 | 4,360 |
| Water Paint | Gal. | 9,202 | 16,045 | 21,500 |
| Varnish | Gal. | 1,606 | 984 | 1,090 |
| Manoline Hair Grease | Kg. | 0 | 11,466 | 4,830 |
| Powder Soap | Kg. | 21,525 | 41,155 | 45,466 |
| Candle | Kg. | 123,900 | 69,227 | 56,407 |
| Chlorox | Litre | 116,949 | 127,812 | 103,702 |
| Rubbing Alcohol | Litre | 35,958 | 20,496 | 23,702 |
| Thinner | Gal. | 939 | 270 | 375 |
| Mattresses | Pcs | 23,250 | 30,044 | 25,603 |
| Finished Water ${ }^{1}$ | Gal. | 133,373,415 ${ }^{\dagger}$ | $415,414,769^{\dagger}$ | 417,782,506* |

$\dagger$ Revised

* Estimates

Note: ${ }^{1}$ Water from the treatment plant in White Plains
Sources: Liberia Institute for Statistics \& Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) and The Liberia Water \& Sewer Corporation (LWSC), Monrovia, Liberia

Chart 2: Key Industrial Output
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; 2 $^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

iii. Paints (Oil \& Water)

Paint production increased to 25,860 gallons during the quarter, from 17,077 gallons produced in the previous quarter. The 51.4 percent rise in production was driven by two main factors: availability of raw materials and heightened domestic demand for the commodity to help facilitate the ongoing reconstruction effort of infrastructure destroyed during the war. Of total paints produced during the quarter, oil paint represented 16.9 percent, while water paint accounted for 83.1 percent. Output of paints for the quarter outgrew that of the corresponding quarter of 2007 by 65.5 percent

Chart 3: Key Industrial Output
(3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)


## iv. Candle

Output of candle during the review period decreased to 56,407 kilograms, from 69,227 kilograms in the previous quarter. Availability of limited quantity of raw materials used in the production of the product reduced production by 18.5 percent.

## v. Mattresses

During the quarter, output of mattresses fell to 25,603 pieces, from 30,044 pieces at end-June, 2008. The 14.8 percent decrease in output was attributed to shortage of raw materials due to the growing cost associated with the importation. Comparison on a yearly basis indicates that production level for the quarter declined by 10.1 percent.

## vi. Water Supply

The level of water supplied during the quarter totaled estimated 417.8 million gallons, 2.4 million gallons more than the quantity recorded at end of the second quarter of 2008. Year-on-year comparison shows that the quantity of water supplied during the reporting quarter was 284.4 million gallons higher than the third quarter of 2007.

### 1.4 Petroleum Products

The volume of petroleum products imported during the reporting quarter declined to $3,862,360$ gallons, from $10,112,250$ gallons in the preceding quarter. The 61.8 percent decline in the volume imported was generally attributed to the storage capacity constraint at the Liberia Petroleum Refinery Corporation (LPRC).

Of the aggregate volume of petroleum products imported, Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) represented 97.7 percent; diesel (AGO), 0.9 percent; Kerosene, 1.3 percent and Jet Fuel (JetA), 0.2 percent. Petroleum products imported during the quarter was 68.8 percent lower than that of the third quarter of 2007 (Table 3).

Table 3: Volume of Petroleum Products Imported
( ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Gallons)

| Commodity | Unit | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} \text { Quarter } \\ 2007 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2^{\text {nd }} \text { Quarter } \\ \text { 2008* } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} \text { Quarter } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Premium(PMS) | Gallon | 2,812,000 | 4,578,750 | 3,773,150 |
| Diesel(AGO) | Gallon | 9,083,516 | 5,372,500 | 33,010 |
| Kerosene(ATK) | Gallon | 160,000 | 65,000 | 50,000 |
| Jet-Fuel(JET-A) | Gallon | 320,000 | 96,000 | 6,200 |
| Total |  | 12,375,516 | 10,112,250 | 3,862,360 |

* Revised

Source: Ministry of Commerce \& Industry and Total Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Chart 4: Consumption of Petroleum Products ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Gallons)


### 1.5 Seaport Developments

Shipping services improved during the quarter. This was on account of increased economic activities arising from the ongoing reconstruction of the economy. A total of 100 vessels with 904,521 Summer Deadweight Tons berthed at the Freeport of Monrovia. The number of vessels represents an increase of over 47 percent when matched against the number of vessels that called at the port in the previous quarter. Similarly, the volume of cargo carried to and away from the port increased to 318,815 metric tons, from 300,235 metric tons in the preceding quarter. Of the aggregate cargo volume, exports accounted for 20.8 percent, while imports represented 79.2 percent (Table 4).

Table 4: Vessel Traffic and Cargo Movements ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

|  | No. of |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Quarter | Vessel | Cargo Tonnage( in metric tons) <br>  <br>  <br> Vessels |  | Weight(SDWT*) | Imports | Exports | Total |
| :---: |
| 3rd Quarter, 2007 |

* SDWT = Summer Dead Weight Tons

Source: National Port Authority (NPA), Monrovia, Liberia

### 1.6 Consumer Price Developments

The general rate of inflation on a year-on-year basis was 20.0 percent at end of September 2008. Consumer price pressure has continued in the past three quarters of the year. The general price level recorded an average rate of inflation of 15.2 percent in the first quarter, 17.6 percent in the second quarter, and 22.6 percent in the third quarter. During the quarter, all of the sub-groups, except the Communication and Education sub-groups, accelerated the general price level (Table 5). Key sub-groups that contributed significantly to the inflationary situation during the quarter include: Food \& Non-alcoholic Beverages (32.0 percent); Transport ( 58.5 percent); Household Equipment \& Maintenance (19.1 percent); Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas \& Other Fuels (11.6 percent), and Recreation \& Culture (10.9 percent). On the overall, Food and Transport were the main drivers of inflation in the economy along with other structural factors, which include the poor state of social infrastructure, inadequate farm inputs, low subsistence food production, etc.

Table 5: Harmonized Consumer Price Index (HCPI) By Major Sub Groups Year-On-Year Rates of Inflation
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

| (Dec. 2005=100) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FUNCTION | WEIGHT | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jul- } \\ 07 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Aug- } \\ 07 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sep- } \\ 07 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 3rd <br> Quarter <br> Ave. '07 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Apr- } \\ 08 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | May-08 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jun- } \\ 08 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $2^{\text {nd }}$ <br> Quarter <br> Ave. '08 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jul- } \\ 08 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Aug- } \\ 08 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sep- } \\ 08 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 3rd <br> Quarter <br> Ave. '08 |
| FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES | 45.20 | 23.33 | 16.89 | 21.26 | 20.49 | 15.70 | 26.29 | 31.83 | 24.61 | 28.82 | 39.24 | 27.86 | 31.97 |
| ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO AND NARCOTICS | 3.03 | 4.08 | 5.45 | 3.47 | 4.33 | 4.62 | 4.44 | 6.41 | 5.16 | 3.35 | 0.52 | 2.36 | 2.08 |
| CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR | 7.75 | 7.59 | 7.34 | 3.83 | 6.25 | 1.32 | 3.98 | 1.45 | 2.25 | 5.44 | 2.35 | 4.96 | 4.25 |
| HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS | 12.00 | 8.85 | 8.93 | 9.22 | 9.00 | 5.73 | 9.46 | 9.62 | 8.27 | 10.63 | 12.27 | 11.80 | 11.57 |
| FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE MAINTENANCE OF THE HOUSE | 5.25 | 3.91 | 3.66 | 6.67 | 4.75 | 16.62 | 15.75 | 15.42 | 15.93 | 11.93 | 21.54 | 23.69 | 19.05 |
| HEALTH | 3.91 | -1.33 | -1.33 | -1.33 | -1.33 | 0.00 | 0.34 | 1.01 | 0.45 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| TRANSPORT | 6.11 | 2.38 | 2.38 | 22.02 | 8.93 | 27.52 | 68.99 | 68.99 | 55.17 | 67.93 | 67.92 | 39.53 | 58.46 |
| COMMUNICATION | 1.53 | -7.20 | -6.14 | -6.26 | -6.53 | -0.57 | -0.60 | -3.31 | -1.49 | -1.68 | -1.86 | -1.75 | -1.76 |
| RECREATION AND CULTURE | 3.85 | 0.56 | 0.98 | 1.14 | 0.89 | 9.19 | 9.11 | 8.02 | 8.77 | 11.34 | 10.72 | 10.51 | 10.86 |
| EDUCATION | 3.20 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS | 4.64 | 1.08 | 1.12 | 0.07 | 0.76 | 6.39 | 0.75 | 0.86 | 2.67 | 7.99 | 3.76 | 3.29 | 5.01 |
| MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES | 3.53 | -1.31 | -0.63 | -1.72 | -1.22 | 9.32 | 8.66 | 8.67 | 8.88 | 9.58 | 10.33 | 10.55 | 10.15 |
| GENERAL RATE OF INFLATION | 100.00 | 12.62 | 9.91 | 12.71 | 11.75 | 11.72 | 19.22 | 21.95 | 17.63 | 21.26 | 26.54 | 19.97 | 22.59 |

Sources: Liberia Institute for Statistics \& Geo-Information Services (LISGIS), and the Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

### 2.1 Money and Banking

## Banking Developments

The banking system now comprised six (6) commercial banks, following the issuance of a final license to a bank to commence banking activities in Liberia. The balance sheet of the banks as an industry continued to improve during the quarter. Total assets in the industry grew by 12.5 percent over the level recorded for the second quarter; deposits by 9.3 percent; and gross loan portfolio, by 14.7 percent for the same period. Other prudential indicators also showed stability and improvement during the quarter.

The industry's capital adequacy ratio (CAR) continued to be in excess of the minimum required ratio of 8.0 percent at end of the third quarter 2008. The CAR recorded for the industry for the reporting quarter was 23.3 percent, 4.0 percentage points above the level recorded for the second quarter of the year. All of the banks, except one, were in excess of the minimum requirements of 8.0 percent for the CAR and US $\$ 2.0$ million for net worth.

The ratio of non-performing loans to total loans remained stable at 14.0 percent. However, there still remains a large stock of non-performing loans in the industry. The CBL is working in collaboration with the commercial banks to resolve this problem.

At end of the review quarter, the industry recorded total revenue of $L \$ 1,528.0$ million and an operating profit of $\mathrm{L} \$ 538.0$ million, both of which are above the level recorded for the third quarter a year ago by 33.0 percent and 15.0 percent, respectively. The industry's liquidity position continued to be well in excess of the 15.0 percent minimum requirement at 60.0 percent.

Expansion in the industry continued during the period under review. One bank received final banking license and has already commenced operations while provisional licenses were granted to two internationally reputable banking institutions. In addition to this, banks continued to establish new branches in Margibi and Maryland counties, and there is now a total of 33 branches and windows of commercial banks in 5 counties across the country. The expansion in banking activities is consistent with CBL's broader policy objectives of promoting access to banking services by a large segment of the population.

### 2.2 Commercial Bank Credit

Expansion of credits by banks to various sectors of the economy continued during the quarter. Total credit (in both Liberian and US dollars) to the economy by banks rose by 14.5 percent to L\$5,969.1 million at end-September, from L\$5,211.0 million at end-June, 2008. On a year-on-year basis, aggregate loans increased by 18.1 percent (Table 6).

Table 6: Commercial Banks’ Loans by Economic Sectors ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $\mathbf{2 d}^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In '000’ L\$)

| SECTORS | 2007 |  | 2008 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | \%Share | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter | \%Share | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | \%Share |
| 1. Agriculture | 303,838 | 6.0 | 187,103 | 3.6 | 283,911 | 4.8 |
| 2. Mining \& Quarrying | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 34 | 0.0 |
| 3. Manufacturing | 64,213 | 1.3 | 134,932 | 2.6 | 168,329 | 2.8 |
| 4. Construction | 425,147 | 8.4 | 629,578 | 12.1 | 607,650 | 10.2 |
| 5. Trans., Storage \& Comm. | 196,529 | 3.9 | 635,349 | 12.2 | 710,760 | 11.9 |
| 6. Trade, Hotel \&Rest. | 721,970 | 14.3 | 1,586,326 | 30.4 | 2,025,629 | 33.9 |
| 7. Other | 3,340,742 | 66.1 | 2,037,757 | 39.1 | 2,172,769 | 36.4 |
| Total | 5,052,438 | 100.0 | 5,211,044 | 100.0 | 5,969,080 | 100.0 |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

All sectors of the economy, except the Construction Sector which declined by 3.5 percent, experienced increases in banks loans during the quarter. Credit to the Agriculture Sector rose by 51.7 percent; Manufacturing, 24.8 percent; Transportation, Storage \& Communication, 11.9 percent; Trade, Hotel \& Restaurant, 27.7 percent; and the "Others", by 6.6 percent.

Of the total loans for the quarter, the Trade, Hotel \& Restaurant Sector accounted for 33.9 percent; Transportation Storage \& Communication, 11.9 percent; Construction, 10.2 percent; Agriculture, 4.8 percent; Manufacturing, 2.8 percent and the "Others", 36.4 percent.

Chart 5: Percentage Share of Commercial Banks’ Loans by Economic Sectors ( ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2008)


## Interest Rates

Movements in interest rates during the quarter were mixed. The average lending rate increased by 1.4 percentage points to 15.80 percent at end September, 2008, from 14.40 percent at end-June of the year. Average time deposit rate decreased slightly by 0.5 percentage points to 3.70 percent and savings rate, on average, also declined by 0.01 percentage points to 2.11 percent at end-September 2008. Average personal loan rate and average rate of CDs remained stable at 14.80 percent and 3.00 percent, respectively.

Table 7: Interest Rates
( ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters 2008)

| RATES | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2007 | 2 $^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter 2008 | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2008 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Avg Lending Rate | 15.30 | 14.40 | 15.80 |
| Avg Personal Loan Rate | 12.10 | 14.80 | 14.80 |
| Avg Mortgage Rate | 12.00 | 12.00 | 14.00 |
| Avg Time Deposit Rate | 4.00 | 4.20 | 3.70 |
| Avg Savings Rate | 2.10 | 2.12 | 2.11 |
| Avg Rate on CDs | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

### 2.3 Monetary Policy Stance

The primary monetary policy objective of the CBL is to maintain price stability. Due to the limited monetary policy instruments available to the Bank, the management of monetary
policy is largely anchored on the foreign exchange auction program of the Bank. The use of this policy instrument is intended to help ensure broad stability of the exchange rate.

### 2.4 Liberian Dollars in Circulation ${ }^{2}$

During the quarter, Liberian dollars in circulation rose slightly by 0.6 percent to $\mathrm{L} \$ 3,358.7$ million, from $\mathrm{L} \$ 3,336.7$ million at end of the previous quarter. The $\mathrm{L} \$ 33.2$ million (7.7 percent) rise in currency in banks to $\mathrm{L} \$ 464.7$ million accounted for the rise in the Liberian dollars in circulation. This reflects growing public confidence in the banking sector. On a yearly basis, Liberian dollars in circulation expanded by 13.7 percent, from the third quarter of 2007 to the amount recorded for the reporting quarter. Currency outside banks, unlike currency in banks, declined by L\$11.3 million (or 0.4 percent) to $\mathrm{L} \$ 2,894.0$ million, from $\mathrm{L} \$ 2,905.3$ million at end-June, 2008. When compared with the corresponding quarter of 2007, currency in banks rose by 17.3 percent at end-September, 2008. The rise in currency in banks and decline in currency outside banks demonstrate growing public trust and confidence in the banking sector (Table 8 \& Chart 6).

Table 8: Liberian Dollars in Circulation ( ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions)

| Quarter | Currency <br> in banks | Currency <br> outside banks | Currency <br> in circulation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $(1)$ | $(2)$ | $(3)$ |
| $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | 396.0 | $2,557.0$ | $2,953.0$ |
| $\mathbf{2 0 0 8}$ |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter | 431.5 | $2,905.3$ | $3,336.7$ |
| $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | 464.7 | $2,894.0$ | $3,358.7$ |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

[^1]Chart 6: Liberian Dollars in Circulation (3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)


### 2.5 Money Supply (M1) ${ }^{3}$

Money supply (M1), narrowly defined, increased by 14.6 percent to $\mathrm{L} \$ 11,485.2$ million at end-September, 2008, from L $\$ 10,023.8$ million at end of the second quarter of the year. The L $\$ 1,472.6$ million (or 20.7 percent) increase in demand deposits accounted for the rise in money supply. When compared with the corresponding quarter of 2007, money supply rose by 39.1 percent at end September, from L\$8,258.6 million at end September, 2007. The increase in money supply has generally been in line with the growing economic activities taking place in various sectors of the economy and the increase in civil servants' salaries by the Government for the 2008/2009 budget year (Table 9 \& Chart 7).

Table 9: Money Supply (M1) \& Broad Money (M2)
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2007; ${ }^{\text {2d }}$ \& $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Quarter | Liberian Currency outside banks (1) | Demand Deposits (2) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Money } \\ \text { Supply } \\ \text { M1 (1+2) } \\ (3) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Savings Deposits <br> (4) | Time Deposits <br> (5) | Quasimoney (4+5) <br> (6) | Broad MoneyM2 (3+6) |
| Quarter, 2007 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | 2,557.0 | 5,701.6 | 8,258.6 | 2,411.8 | 163.3 | 2,575.2 | 10,833.8 |
| Quarter, 2008 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter | 2,905.3 | 7,118.6 | 10,023.8 | 3,334.2 | 579.9 | 3,914.1 | 13,937.9 |
| $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | 2,894.0 | 8,591.2 | 11,485.2 | 3,631.7 | 272.3 | 3,904.0 | 15,389.2 |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

[^2]Chart 7: Money Supply (M1)
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)


### 2.6 Broad Money (M2) ${ }^{4}$

Broad money (M2) supply recorded a 10.4 percent rise to $\mathrm{L} \$ 15,389.2$ million at end of the review quarter, from $\mathrm{L} \$ 13,937.9$ million at end of the previous quarter. The growth in broad money was driven mainly by an 8.9 percent increase in savings deposits, which shows growing level of public confidence in the banking system (Table 9 \& Chart 8).

Chart 8: Broad Money (M2)
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $\mathbf{2 d}^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)


A look at the disaggregated components of broad money shows that the US dollar component accounted for 69.2 percent (the largest share) while the Liberian dollar component accounted

[^3]for 30.8 percent. The US dollar share of broad money for the quarter grew by 1.3 percentage points when compared with the preceding quarter of 2008 (Table 10 \& Chart 9).

Table 10: Broad Money (M2): Share of US and Liberian Dollars ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)

|  | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ <br> Quarter, <br> $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | Percent <br> Share | $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }}$ <br> Quarter, <br> $\mathbf{2 0 0 8}$ | Percent <br> Share | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ <br> Quarter, <br> $\mathbf{2 0 0 8}$ | Percent <br> Share |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Broad Money | $10,833.8$ |  | $13,937.9$ |  | $15,389.2$ |  |
| US\$ Converted | $6,924.4$ | 63.9 | $9,463.9$ | 67.9 | $10,647.9$ | 69.2 |
| L\$ | $3,909.4$ | 36.1 | $4,474.0$ | 32.1 | $4,741.3$ | 30.8 |
|  |  | 100.0 |  | 100.0 |  | 100.0 |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

## Chart 9: Broad Money (M2): Share of US and Liberian Dollars

 ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)(In Millions L\$)


### 2.7 Exchange Rate

The Liberian-US dollar exchange rate at end of the quarter remained relatively stable at L\$63.50 to US $\$ 1.00$, which has largely been the case since the beginning of 2008. The period average exchange rate also remained broadly stable at the same rate recorded for the end-ofperiod rate (Table 11). The cautious expansion of money supply to the economy and the ongoing weekly CBL's foreign exchange auction program are factors largely contributing to the broad stability of the exchange rate of the Liberian dollar to the United States dollar. The exchange rate for the period July - September, 2008 fluctuated between L\$63.00 and L\$64.00 per US\$1.00 (Table 12).

Table 11: Exchange Rates: L\$ US\$
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

|  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ <br> Quarter <br> 2007 | $2^{\text {nd }}$ <br> Quarter <br> 2008 | $3^{\text {rd }}$ <br> Quarter <br> 2008 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| MXCHANGE RATE | 61.50 | 63.50 | 63.50 |
| Market Rate: End of Period | 61.62 | 63.50 | 63.49 |
| Market Rate: Period Average |  |  |  |

Table 12: Exchange Rate Developments: Liberian Dollars per US Dollar (Monthly Averages)
(2007 - September, 2008)

|  | 2007 |  | 2008 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | Buying | Selling | Buying | Selling |
| January | 60.57 | 61.65 | 62.96 | 64.00 |
| February | 60.21 | 61.13 | 62.20 | 63.20 |
| March | 60.00 | 61.01 | 62.00 | 63.01 |
| April | 60.40 | 61.54 | 62.06 | 63.08 |
| May | 61.22 | 62.17 | 62.78 | 63.56 |
| June | 62.02 | 63.00 | 63.00 | 64.00 |
| July | 60.77 | 61.71 | 63.00 | 64.00 |
| August | 61.91 | 62.91 | 63.00 | 64.00 |
| September | 61.12 | 62.12 | 63.00 | 63.94 |
| October | 61.13 | 62.15 |  |  |
| November | 59.65 | 60.67 |  |  |
| December | 60.27 | 61.27 |  |  |
| Q1 | 60.26 | 61.26 | 62.39 | 63.40 |
| Q2 | 61.21 | 62.24 | 62.93 | 63.85 |
| Q3 | 61.27 | 62.25 | 63.00 | 63.98 |
| Q4 | 60.35 | 61.36 |  |  |
| Year | 60.77 | 61.78 |  |  |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

### 2.8 Foreign Exchange Auction

For the review quarter, the CBL continued with its weekly foreign exchange auction program. The total amount of US $\$ 6.5$ million was sold through the auction, US $\$ 1.5$ million less than the level recorded for the second quarter of 2008. The reduction in the amount of US dollars offered for sale can be explained generally by the relative stability of the rate that persisted during the quarter under review (Chart10).

Chart 10: US Dollars Sold at the CBL's Foreign Exchange Auction (In Millions US\$)


### 2.9 Remittances

The review period recorded total inward transfers of US\$255.3 million - 0.6 percent rise over the previous quarter. Outward remittances totaled US $\$ 239.7$ million at end of the quarter, from US $\$ 213.6$ million during the second quarter. Netflow for the reporting quarter amounted to US $\$ 15.6$ million. Corresponding quarter comparison shows that total inward transfers rose by US\$66.8 million, total outward transfers by US\$54.1 million, and net inflow by US $\$ 12.7$ million.

Table 13: Remittances: Inflows and Outflows ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008) (In Million US\$)

|  | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007 |  |  | $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter, 2008 |  |  | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2008 |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Inflows | Outflows | Net flow | Inflows | Outflows | Net flow | Inflows | Outflows | Net flow |
| Banks | 187.7 | 184.8 | 2.9 | 252.8 | 212.7 | 40.1 | 254.5 | 239.0 | 15.5 |
| Private firms ${ }^{1}$ | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.1 |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 8 8 . 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 8 5 . 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 3 . 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 1 3 . 6}$ | $\mathbf{4 0 . 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 5 5 . 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 3 9 . 7}$ | $\mathbf{1 5 . 6}$ |
| 0/w WR* | $\mathbf{7 2 . 3}$ | $\mathbf{3 7 . 6}$ | $\mathbf{3 4 . 7}$ | $\mathbf{4 8 . 0}$ | $\mathbf{4 1 . 7}$ | $\mathbf{6 . 3}$ | $\mathbf{4 7 . 5}$ | $\mathbf{4 4 . 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 9}$ |

*WR denotes workers' remittances
${ }^{1}$ Private Firms include People Enterprises Incorporated and I.B. Xpress (Lib) Incorporated
Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Of the total inward remittances for the quarter, workers (personal) remittances accounted for 18.6 percent (US $\$ 47.5$ million), US $\$ 0.5$ million lower than the level recorded for the second quarter (US $\$ 48.0$ million) and US\$24.8 million lower than the corresponding quarter of 2007. The decline in workers' remittances from abroad can be largely attributed to the global financial and economic crisis, especially with individuals losing their jobs in the USA, which is one of the major sources of workers' transfers to Liberia.

## 㰦

During the quarter ending September 2008, government budgetary operations showed that expenditure exceeded revenue by $\mathrm{L} \$ 611.3$ million.

### 3.1 Revenue

Total Government revenue for the reporting quarter was reported at $\mathrm{L} \$ 3,003.6$ million, 5.5 percent of projected nominal GDP and 16.1 percent of the national budget for 2008/2009. Compared with the previous quarter, total revenue declined by L\$659.5 million or 18.0 percent during the review quarter. The decline resulted primarily from decreases in Direct Taxes, Indirect Taxes, Maritime Revenue, and Grants; but the fall in revenue was more pronounced in the Indirect Taxes category, which fell by L\$471.6 million or 55.7 percent mainly due to the fact during the period under review, tax receipts from this category usually fall as it is not the peak season for revenue collection.

Percentage contributions to total revenue showed that Customs \& Excise contributed 46.2 percent; while Direct Taxes, Indirect Taxes, FDA Levy, Petroleum Sales Levy, and Maritime Revenue contributed 30.8 percent, 12.5 percent, 0.6 percent, 4.0 percent and 5.9 percent, respectively.

Table 14: Government of Liberia Revenue by Sources ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)

|  | 2007 |  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 8}$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| Revenue Category | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter |  | 2nd Quarter |  |
| 3rd Quarter |  |  |  |  |
| Customs \& Excise | $1,128.1$ | $1,268.6$ | $1,388.9$ |  |
| Direct Taxes | 645.1 | $1,057.8$ | 923.8 |  |
| Indirect Taxes | 545.8 | 846.3 | 374.7 |  |
| FDA Levy | 5.9 | 17.0 | 17.1 |  |
| Petroleum Sales Levy | 55.5 | 121.7 | 123.0 |  |
| Maritime | 159.2 | 246.7 | 176.1 |  |
| Grants | - | 104.6 | 0.0 |  |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 , 5 3 9 . 6}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 6 6 2 . 7}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 0 0 3 . 6}$ |  |

${ }^{1}$ Forestry Development Authority Source: Ministry of Finance, Monrovia, Liberia

## Chart 13: Government of Liberia Revenue by Quarter

 (3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)(In Millions L\$)


### 3.2 Expenditure

For the third quarter, total government expenditure was reported at $\mathrm{L} \$ 3,614.9$ million, accounting for 19.6 percent of the 2008/2009 national budget and 6.5 percent of projected GDP. Matched against the previous quarter, aggregate expenditure marginally increased by L $\$ 55.5$ million or 1.6 percent during the review quarter. Compared with the corresponding quarter in 2007, it increased by $\mathrm{L} \$ 1,103.8$ million or about 44.0 percent. The rise in total government spending was on account of the expanding reconstruction activities taking place throughout the country, increased expenditure on the civil service; and on the implementation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Process (PRSP), which started in April, 2008 (Table 15).

A disaggregation of total expenditure shows that spending on General Administration amounted to $\mathrm{L} \$ 1,474.9$ million ( 40.8 percent of total expenditure), Social \& Community Services, L\$871.5 million (24.1 percent); Economic Services, L\$161.1 million (4.5 percent), and Other Expenditures, L\$1,107.5 million (30.6 percent).

Table 15: Government of Liberia Expenditure by Category ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)

| Expenditure Category | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 8}$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter |
|  | $1,107.1$ | 1199.4 | $\mathbf{1 , 4 7 4 . 9}$ |
| Social \& Community Services | 316.2 | 671.7 | 871.5 |
| Economic Services | 143.4 | 256.5 | 161.1 |
| Other Expenditures | 944.4 | 1431.8 | $1,107.5$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 , 5 1 1 . 1}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 5 5 9 . 4}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 6 1 4 . 9}$ |

Source: Ministry of Finance, Monrovia, Liberia

Chart 14: Government of Liberia Expenditure by quarter (3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)


Revenue and expenditure levels for the current and preceding quarters of 2008 and that of the corresponding third quarter of 2007 are presented in Table 16 and Chart 15 below.

Table 16: Government of Liberia Revenue and Expenditure by Quarter ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)

|  | 2007 | 2008 |  | $\%$ Change in $2^{\text {nd }}$ <br> \& $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter |  |
| Revenue | 2,539.6 | 3,662.7 | 3,003.6 | -18.0 |
| Expenditure | 2,511.1 | 3,559.4 | 3,614.9 | 1.6 |

Source: Ministry of Finance, Monrovia, Liberia
Chart 15: Government of Liberia Revenue and Expenditure by Quarter ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)


### 3.3 Public Debt ${ }^{5}$

For the quarter ending September 2008, the total stock of public debt was recorded at US $\$ 4,262.9$ million. Of this amount, external debt accounts for US\$3,359.0 million (78.8 percent) and domestic debt amounts to US $\$ 903.9$ million (21.2 percent).

[^4]
## External Debt

At end June, total external debt was recorded at US\$4,732.0 million, compared to US $\$ 3,359.0$ million reported at end-September 2008. The reduction was primarily due to debt relief from multilateral and bilateral creditors.

Table 17: Summary Estimate of External Debt Stock
As at End-June and September, 2008
( In Millions US\$)

|  | Estimate of <br> External Debt as at <br> June, 2008 | Estimate of <br> External Debt as at <br> September, 2008 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Multilateral | $1,615.0$ | $1,051.0$ |
| Bilateral | $1,543.0$ | 700.0 |
| Commercial Creditors | $1,574.0$ | $1,574.0$ |
| International Organizations | - | 34.0 |
| Total | $\mathbf{4 , 7 3 2 . 0}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 3 5 9 . 0}$ |

Source: Ministry of Finance, Monrovia, Liberia
Chart 16: Percentage Distribution of External Debt Stock
(As at September 30, 2008)


## Domestic Debt

To date, the total stock of domestic debt stands at approximately US\$903.9 million. While no domestic debt was accrued during the quarter under review, domestic debt spanning the period 2006-2008 was based on the validation results by external financial advisors.

## 

### 4.1 Balance of Trade

As in previous quarters, the country's trade balance continued to deteriorate. The deficit worsened by US\$81.6 million (67.7 percent) to US\$202.2 million at end-September, from US $\$ 120.6$ million at end-June, 2008. An obvious reason for this development was the rising cost of imports which far exceeded export receipts. The continuous deterioration of the trade balance reflects the highly import-dependent nature of the economy. For several years now, Liberia had continued to have negative trade balances.

Table 19: Balance of Trade
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In '000 US\$)

|  | $\mathbf{3 r}^{\mathbf{d}}$ Quarter, 2007 | $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter, 2008 | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2008 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Total Exports | $53,548.5$ | $67,558.8$ | $64,260.6$ |
| Total Imports | $150,711.4$ | $188,145.4$ | $266,484.6$ |
| Trade Balance | $\mathbf{- 9 7 , 1 6 2 . 9}$ | $\mathbf{- 1 2 0 , 5 8 6 . 6}$ | $\mathbf{- 2 0 2 , 2 2 4 . 0}$ |

Sources: Ministries of Commerce \& Industry, Lands, Mines \& Energy and Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Chart 17: Exports, Imports \& Trade Balance
$\left(3^{\text {rd }}\right.$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)


### 4.2 Merchandise Exports

Export activities for the quarter are a complete reversal of those recorded for the last two quarters. While total export earnings rose during the first and second quarters of 2008, they
took on a downturn during the third quarter. Influencing this development was simultaneous contractions in receipts from some key export commodities such as rubber and gold. Accordingly, receipts from total exports recorded a decline of 4.9 percent, from US\$67.6 million in the previous quarter to US\$64.3 as at September-end, 2008.

Receipts from rubber exports fell by 8.5 percent to US $\$ 53.5$ million. This was on account of a 20.5 percent reduction in volume of the commodity as price expanded by 14.9 percent. Moreover, the months of the third quarter are part of the rainy season in Liberia, a period when most agricultural activities are minimized. Hence, the subdued earnings from rubber can be attributed to the scaling down of rubber activities during the rainy season. Notwithstanding this contraction, the commodity has, for several quarters now, remained as the dominant export-earning commodity, accounting for 83.2 percent of earnings for the quarter under consideration.

Earnings from gold exports also plummeted during the quarter. They contracted by 17.1 percent to US\$2.9 million as at end of the third quarter. This was on account of reduction in volume and price by 5.9 percent and 11.4 percent, respectively.

A decline in earnings from cocoa beans export was also recorded, reducing from US\$0.9 million in the previous quarter to US $\$ 0.4$ million in the review quarter. The low level of export earnings recorded for cocoa beans can be generally attributed to the high level of illicit cross-border trade taking place with neighboring countries relative to the sale of the commodity.

Although actual mining-operation is yet to commence, exportation of some iron ore deposits was recorded during the review quarter, as against the previous quarter when no export took place. A total of twenty metric tons was exported during the quarter, yielding the amount of US $\$ 1.2$ million as export value

The export categories which expanded were diamond and the "others" commodities. Earnings from diamond exports rose from US\$3.2 million to US\$4.3 million, representing an increase of 34.4 percent. This was on account of a rise in the volume of diamond exported during the quarter.

Export earnings from the "others" commodities category also rose by 52.2 percent, from US $\$ 1.3$ million in the preceding quarter to US\$2.1 million in the third quarter. This can be largely attributed to the relaxation of the ban on scrap metals.

Table 20: Commodity Composition of Exports
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

| Commodity Exports | Unit | $3^{\text {rd }}$Quarter,2007 (In'000'US\$) | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter, 2008 |  |  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2008 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | (In '000' Units) | Price | $\begin{aligned} & \text { (In ‘000' } \\ & \text { US\$) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { (In ‘000’ } \\ \text { Units) } \end{gathered}$ | Price | $\begin{gathered} \text { (In ‘000’ } \\ \text { US\$) } \end{gathered}$ |
| Rubber | Mt. | 52,024.7 | 25.8 | 2,269.3 | 58,547.1 | 20.5 | 2,607.4 | 53,452.6 |
| Cocoa Beans | Mt. | 19.7 | 1.2 | 762.8 | 915.4 | 0.5 | 732.0 | 366.0 |
| Iron Ore | Mt. | - | - | - | - | 20.0 | 60.0 | 1,200.0 |
| Diamond | Carat | - | 12.8 | 253.1 | 3,239.7 | 17.3 | 246.1 | 4,256.8 |
| Gold | Ounce | - | 5.1 | 685.7 | 3,497.1 | 4.8 | 607.6 | 2,916.4 |
| Others* | - | 1,504.1 | 0.0 | - | 1,359.5 | - | - | 2,068.7 |
| Total |  | 53,548.5 |  |  | 67,558.8 |  |  | 64,260.6 |

* Other commodities of minimal values

Sources: Ministries of Commerce \& Industry, Lands, Mines, \& Energy and Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Chart 18: Commodity Composition of Exports
(3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)


### 4.3 Merchandise Imports

There was an upward movement in import activities during the quarter due to increased demand for imports for the ensuing festive season. In this connection, the cost of imports rose by 39.6 percent, from US $\$ 188.1$ million in the preceding quarter to US\$262.5 million in the review quarter. Major import categories that contributed to this expansion include Food \& Live Animals, Manufactured Goods, Petroleum Products and Miscellaneous Articles.

The cost of imports of the Food \& Live Animals category more than tripled to US\$79.4 million, from US $\$ 22.9$ million in the preceding quarter. The rise in payments to this category was mainly on account of a significant increase in payments for the importation of the country's staple food, rice, which was recorded at US $\$ 47.8$ million for the review quarter, compared with US $\$ 5.8$ million for the previous quarter. For the quarter under consideration, rice accounted for 60.2 percent of the Food \& Live Animals category and 18.2 percent of total merchandise import payments.

Import payments for Manufactured Goods also rose by 25.7 percent. This is reflective of continuous build-up of investors' confidence in the Liberian economy, occasioned by the creation of a conducive investment and security environment. For the review quarter, this category accounted for 13.2 percent of total import expenditures.

Payments for petroleum products rose by 72.1 percent. This was largely on account of increased oil bills resulting from high price of oil on the world market. Petroleum products accounted for the second dominant share of total import bills, representing 22.1 percent. As humanitarian assistance continues to be scaled down, the rise in payments to the Miscellaneous Articles category can be largely ascribed to the heightened demand for personal effects in order to facilitate the build-up of stocks to accommodate the ensuing festive season.

In contrast to the above, there were other categories of imports for which payments declined. The major category of imports for which payments declined was the Machinery \& Transport Equipment. Import cost on this category was recorded at US $\$ 44.0$ million for the quarter, compared with US $\$ 77.1$ million for the previous quarter - a contraction of 42.9 percent. Notwithstanding the preceding development, payments for this category accounted for a significant share of total payments for imports, representing 16.8 percent for the review quarter.

Table 21: Commodity Composition of Imports ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In '000 US\$)

| Imports | $3^{\text {rd }} \text { Quarter, }$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2^{\text {nd }} \text { Quarter, } \\ & 2008 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} \text { Quarter, } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Food \& Live Animals | 39,206.9 | 22,933 | 79,369.5 |
| O/w: Commercial Rice/ ${ }^{1}$ | 19,940.8 | 5,783.8 | 47,791.9 |
| O/w: Non-commercial Rice |  | - | 5,598.8 |
| Beverages \& Tobacco | 4,408.2 | 4,741.7 | 3,133.1 |
| Crude Materials \& Inedible except Fuel | 1,635.2 | 1,957.4 | 2,784.7 |
| Minerals, Fuel \& Lubricants/ ${ }^{2}$ | 1,411.1 | 2,657.3 | 1,429.6 |
| Vegetable Oil (Animal) | 4,173.4 | 243.1 | 357.1 |
| Chemical \& Related Products | 6,403.1 | 8,189.3 | 10,877.7 |
| Mfg. Goods classified chiefly by materials | 29,259.4 | 27,647.7 | 34,679.0 |
| Machinery \& Transport Equipment | 25,950.4 | 77,078.6 | 44,004.2 |
| Petroleum Products | 28,252.7 | 33,684.8 | 57,985.4 |
| Miscellaneous Articles/ ${ }^{3}$ | 10,011.0 | 9,012.0 | 27,864.3 |
| Total | 150,711.4 | 188,145.4 | 262,484.6 |

${ }^{1}$ /Rice import is now being reported as separate item in the merchandise import category as recommended by the IMF.
${ }^{2} /$ This category of merchandise import reported by MCI excludes petroleum import to avoid double counting.
${ }^{3}$ Include Commodities and transactions not elsewhere classified
Sources: Ministry of Commerce \& Industry and Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia
Chart 19: Commodity Composition of Imports
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In '000’ US\$)



## PART A: REAL SECTOR

Table A-1: Key Agricultural Production (3 $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; 2 ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

Table A-2: $\quad$ Key Industrial Output ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
Table A-3: Petroleum Products Imports ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

Table A-4: Vessel Traffic and Cargo Movements ( ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
Table A-5: Harmonized Consumer Price Index (January 2007 - September 2008)

## PART B: FINANCIAL STATISTICS

Table B-1: $\quad$ Monetary Survey ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
Table B-2: $\quad$ Currency in Circulation ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
Table B-3: Money Supply and Broad Money (Liberian \& United States Dollars) ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

Table B-4: Other Depository Corporations’ Balance Sheet (3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }}$ \& $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

Table B-5: Sectoral Balance Sheet of the Central Bank of Liberia (3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

Table B-6: Commercial Banks’ Loans by Economic Sectors (3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }}$ \& $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

Table B-7: Central Bank of Liberia Foreign Exchange Auction Program (July, 2008 - September, 2008)

Table B-8: Exchange Rate Developments: Liberian Dollar per US Dollar (Period Averages) (January, 2007 - September, 2008)

## PART C: FISCAL SECTOR

Table C-1: $\quad$ Government of Liberia Revenue by Sources (3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \&$ $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

Table C-2: $\quad$ Government of Liberia Expenditure by category ( ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }}$ \& $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

Table C-3: $\quad$ Summary Estimate of External Debt Stock $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

Table C - 4: Functional Classification of Government Expenditure ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

## PART D: EXTERNAL SECTOR

Table D-1: Commodity Composition of Exports ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
Table D-2: Commodity Composition of Imports (3 $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

| Table A-1: Key Agricultural Production (3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Commodity | Unit | $3{ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2007 | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter 2008 | $3{ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2008 |
| Rubber | Mt | 34,952 | 22,700 | 18,229 |
| Cocoa | Mt | 285* | 265 | 915 |
| Coffee | Mt | - | 18 | 75 |
| Round Logs | $\mathrm{M}^{3}$ | - | - | - |
| Sawn Timber | Pcs | 153,798 | 289,732 | 200,720 |

*Estimates
Sources: Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geo-Information Services; Forestry Development Authority (FDA); Ministry of Commerce \& Industry; Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation (LPMC), and National Port Authority (NPA), Monrovia, Liberia

Table A-2: Key Industrial Output
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

| Commodity | Unit | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2007 | $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter 2008 | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2008 |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Diamond | Carat | 2,886 | 12,821 | 17,329 |
| Gold | Ounce | 2,915 | 5,117 | 4,340 |
| Cement | Mt | 41,354 | 18,391 | 23,561 |
| Spirit | Litre | 281,193 | 238,000 | 341,368 |
| Beer | Litre | $1,537,751$ | $2,134,282$ | $1,698,069$ |
| Stout | Litre | 753,002 | 776,152 | 980,757 |
| Malta | Litre | 223,732 | 269,494 | 222,449 |
| Soft Drinks | Litre | $1,847,974$ | 978,422 | $1,242,792$ |
| Oil Paint | Gal. | 6,423 | 1,032 | 4,360 |
| Water Paint | Gal. | 9,202 | 16,045 | 21,500 |
| Varnish | Gal. | 1,606 | 984 | 1,090 |
| Manoline Hair Grease | Kg. | 0 | 11,466 | 4,830 |
| Powder Soap | Kg. | 21,525 | 41,155 | 45,466 |
| Candle | Kg. | 123,900 | 69,227 | 56,407 |
| Chlorox | Litre | 116,949 | 127,812 | 103,702 |
| Rubbing Alcohol | Litre | 35,958 | 20,496 | 23,702 |
| Thinner | Gal. | 939 | 270 | 375 |
| Mattresses | Pcs | 23,250 | 30,044 | 25,603 |
| Finished Water ${ }^{1}$ | Gal. | $192580330^{*}$ | $267963894 *$ |  |

* Estimates

Note: ${ }^{1}$ Water from the treatment plant in White Plains
Sources: Liberia Institute for Statistics \& Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) and The Liberia Water \& Sewer Corporation
(LWSC), Monrovia, Liberia
Table A-3: Petroleum Products Imports
(3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Gallons)

| Commodity | Unit | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} \text { Quarter } \\ 2007 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2^{\text {nd }} \text { Quarter } \\ \text { 2008* } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} \text { Quarter } \\ 2008 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Premium(PMS) | Gallon | 2,812,000 | 4,578,750 | 3,773,150 |
| Diesel(AGO) | Gallon | 9,083,516 | 5,372,500 | 33,010 |
| Kerosene(ATK) | Gallon | 160,000 | 65,000 | 50,000 |
| Jet-Fuel(JET-A) | Gallon | 320,000 | 96,000 | 6,200 |
| Total |  | 12,375,516 | 10,112,250 | 3,862,360 |

Source: Ministry of Finance, Monrovia, Liberia
Table A-4: Vessel Traffic and Cargo Movements ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

| Quarter | No. of Vessels | VesselWeight(SDWT*) | Cargo Tonnage( in metric tons) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Imports | Exports | Total |
| $3{ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007 | 85 | 1,132,800 | 254,035 | 64,772 | 318,807 |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter, 2008 | 68 | 887,724 | 243,628 | 56,607 | 300,235 |
| $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2008 | 100 | 904,521 | 252,457 | 66,358 | 318,815 |

[^5]Table A-5: Harmonized Consumer Price Index (HCPI) By Major Sub Groups
Year-On-Year Rates of Inflation
(3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(Dec. 2005=100)

| FUNCTION | $\begin{gathered} \text { WEIGH } \\ \mathbf{T} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jul- } \\ 07 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Aug } \\ -07 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sep- } \\ 07 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { 3rd } \\ \text { Quart } \\ \text { er } \\ \text { Ave. } \\ \text { '07 } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Apr } \\ -08 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ -08 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jun } \\ -08 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quart er Ave. '08 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jul- } \\ 08 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Aug } \\ -08 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Sep- } \\ 08 \end{gathered}$ | 3rd <br> Quart <br> er <br> Ave. <br> '08 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FOOD AND NON- <br> ALCOHOLIC <br> BEVERAGES | 45.20 | $\begin{gathered} 23.3 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 16.8 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 21.2 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | 20.49 | $\begin{gathered} 15.7 \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 26.2 \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 31.8 \\ 3 \end{gathered}$ | 24.61 | $\begin{gathered} 28.8 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 39.2 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 27.8 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | 31.97 |
| ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO AND NARCOTICS | 3.03 | 4.08 | 5.45 | 3.47 | 4.33 | 4.62 | 4.44 | 6.41 | 5.16 | 3.35 | 0.52 | 2.36 | 2.08 |
| CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR | 7.75 | 7.59 | 7.34 | 3.83 | 6.25 | 1.32 | 3.98 | 1.45 | 2.25 | 5.44 | 2.35 | 4.96 | 4.25 |
| HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS | 12.00 | 8.85 | 8.93 | 9.22 | 9.00 | 5.73 | 9.46 | 9.62 | 8.27 | $\begin{gathered} 10.6 \\ 3 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 12.2 \\ 7 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 11.8 \\ 0 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 11.57 |
| FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE MAINTENANCE OF THE HOUSE | 5.25 | 3.91 | 3.66 | 6.67 | 4.75 | $\begin{gathered} 16.6 \\ 2 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15.7 \\ 5 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 15.4 \\ 2 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 15.93 | $\begin{gathered} 11.9 \\ 3 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 21.5 \\ 4 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 23.6 \\ 9 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 19.05 |
| HEALTH | 3.91 | $1.33$ | $1.33$ | $1.33$ | -1.33 | 0.00 | 0.34 | 1.01 | 0.45 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| TRANSPORT | 6.11 | 2.38 | 2.38 | $\begin{gathered} 22.0 \\ 2 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 8.93 | $\begin{gathered} 27.5 \\ 2 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 68.9 \\ 9 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 68.9 \\ 9 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 55.17 | $\begin{gathered} 67.9 \\ 3 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 67.9 \\ 2 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 39.5 \\ 3 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 58.46 |
| COMMUNICATI ON | 1.53 | $7.20$ | $6.14$ | $6.26$ | -6.53 | $0.57$ | $0.60$ | $3.31$ | -1.49 | $1.68$ | $1.86$ | $1.75$ | -1.76 |
| RECREATION AND CULTURE | 3.85 | 0.56 | 0.98 | 1.14 | 0.89 | 9.19 | 9.11 | 8.02 | 8.77 | $\begin{gathered} 11.3 \\ 4 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 10.7 \\ 2 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 10.5 \\ 1 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 10.86 |
| EDUCATION | 3.20 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS | 4.64 | 1.08 | 1.12 | 0.07 | 0.76 | 6.39 | 0.75 | 0.86 | 2.67 | 7.99 | 3.76 | 3.29 | 5.01 |
| MISCELLANEO US GOODS AND SERVICES | 3.53 | $1.31$ | $0.63$ | $1.72$ | -1.22 | 9.32 | 8.66 | 8.67 | 8.88 | 9.58 | $\begin{gathered} 10.3 \\ 3 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 10.5 \\ 5 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 10.15 |
| GENERAL RATE OF INFLATION | 100.00 | $\begin{gathered} 12.6 \\ 2 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 9.91 | $\begin{gathered} 12.7 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ | 11.75 | $\begin{gathered} 11.7 \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 19.2 \\ 2 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 21.9 \\ 5 \end{gathered}$ | 17.63 | $\begin{gathered} 21.2 \\ 6 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 26.5 \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 19.9 \\ 7 \end{gathered}$ | 22.59 |

Sources: Liberia Institute for Statistics \& Geo-Information Services (LISGIS), and the Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Table B-1: Monetary Survey ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)

|  | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} \text { Qtr } \\ 2007 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter 2008 |  |  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2008 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Apr-08 | May-08 | Jun-08 | Jul-08 | Aug-08 | Sep-08 |
| FOREIGN ASSETS (NET) | $(48,223.4)$ | $(43,321.5)$ | $(44,049.5)$ | $(44,503.2)$ | $(44,544.5)$ | $(44,005.9)$ | $(43,558.9)$ |
| FOREIGN ASSETS (MA) | 6,482.7 | 9,359.3 | 9,441.6 | 9,417.1 | 9,617.5 | 9,783.2 | 9,355.6 |
| (-) FOREIGN LIABILITIES (MA) | 57,681.3 | 57,011.4 | 57,358.9 | 57,814.4 | 57,813.4 | 57,810.8 | 57,813.6 |
| FOREIGN ASSETS (CoB) | 3,869.1 | 5,024.5 | 4,592.3 | 4,679.9 | 4,387.9 | 4,852.4 | 5,704.5 |
| (-) FOREIGN LIABILITIES (CoB) | 893.8 | 693.8 | 724.6 | 785.8 | 736.4 | 830.7 | 805.3 |
| DOMESTIC CREDIT | 75,479.4 | 75,570.2 | 76,294.3 | 76,962.3 | 76,783.5 | 76,656.7 | 77,730.4 |
| CLAIMS ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT (NET) | 71,485.2 | 69,848.4 | 70,322.4 | 71,126.3 | 70,956.4 | 70,618.9 | 71,353.0 |
| CLAIMS ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT (MA) | 73,733.0 | 73,108.6 | 73,576.8 | 74,030.4 | 74,030.6 | 74,027.5 | 74,025.1 |
| (-) GENERAL GOVERNMENT DEPOSITS (MA) | 3,036.3 | 3,829.2 | 3,884.7 | 3,554.1 | 3,737.5 | 3,927.3 | 3,176.4 |
| CLAIMS ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT (CoB) | 860.6 | 741.6 | 746.0 | 746.0 | 746.4 | 605.9 | 605.5 |
| (-) GENERAL GOVERNMENT DEPOSITS (CoB) | 72.1 | 172.6 | 115.7 | 96.0 | 83.1 | 87.2 | 101.2 |
| CLAIMS ON PUBLIC CORPOTARIONS (MA) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| CLAIMS ON PUBLIC CORPORATIONS (CoB) | 138.4 | 65.6 | 58.8 | 75.2 | 66.5 | 55.7 | 62.1 |
| CLAIMS ON PRIVATE SECTOR (MA) | 29.7 | 198.1 | 200.2 | 244.9 | 30.7 | 31.8 | 31.6 |
| CLAIMS ON PRIVATE SECTOR (CoB) | 3,817.4 | 5,457.8 | 5,712.5 | 5,514.9 | 5,728.8 | 5,948.7 | 6,282.8 |
| CLAIMS ON NBFIS (MA) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| CLAIMS ON NBFIS (CoB) | 8.7 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 0.9 |
| MONEY | 11,246.3 | 14,643.6 | 14,856.5 | 14,552.6 | 14,530.0 | 15,248.1 | 16,057.9 |
| CURRENCY OUTSIDE BANKS (MA) | 2,557.0 | 2,961.1 | 2,916.4 | 2,905.3 | 2,893.2 | 2,812.3 | 2,894.0 |
| LIBERIAN CURRENCY IN CIRCULATION (MA) | 2,953.0 | 3,397.2 | 3,341.3 | 3,336.7 | 3,409.7 | 3,335.9 | 3,358.7 |
| (-) CURRENCY HOLDINGS (CoB) | 396.0 | 436.1 | 424.9 | 431.5 | 516.5 | 523.6 | 464.7 |
| DEMAND DEPOSITS | 6,114.1 | 8,080.7 | 8,161.9 | 7,733.2 | 7,614.9 | 8,260.3 | 9,259.9 |
| DEMAND DEPOSITS (MA) | 412.5 | 628.0 | 772.4 | 614.6 | 607.9 | 592.9 | 668.6 |
| DEMAND DEPOSITS (CoB) | 5,701.6 | 7,452.7 | 7,389.5 | 7,118.6 | 7,006.9 | 7,667.4 | 8,591.2 |
| OTHER DEPOSITS | 2,575.2 | 3,601.8 | 3,778.2 | 3,914.1 | 4,021.9 | 4,175.5 | 3,904.0 |
| OTHER DEPOSITS (MA) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TIME AND SAVINGS DEPOSITS (CoB) | 2,575.2 | 3,601.8 | 3,778.2 | 3,914.1 | 4,021.9 | 4,175.5 | 3,904.0 |
| BONDS AND SECURITIES (CoB) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| RESTRICTED DEPOSIT | 48.1 | 47.9 | 47.6 | 44.8 | 47.2 | 47.2 | 46.7 |
| CAPITAL ACCOUNTS | 18,568.5 | 19,791.8 | 19,745.5 | 19,844.4 | 20,268.6 | 20,147.3 | 20,173.5 |
| CAPITAL ACCOUNTS (MA) | 15,513.4 | 16,017.3 | 16,188.7 | 16,231.6 | 16,241.8 | 16,247.1 | 16,259.4 |
| CAPITAL ACCOUNTS (CoB) | 3,055.1 | 3,774.5 | 3,556.8 | 3,612.7 | 4,026.8 | 3,900.3 | 3,914.1 |
| OTHER ITEMS (NET) | $(2,606.9)$ | $(2,234.6)$ | $(2,404.9)$ | $(1,982.6)$ | $(2,606.7)$ | $(2,791.9)$ | $(2,106.5)$ |
| UNCLASSIFIED LIABILITIES (MA) | 7,697.9 | 12,712.1 | 12,665.1 | 12,765.0 | 12,779.5 | 12,777.1 | 12,789.7 |
| (-) UNCLASSIFIED ASSETS (MA) | 9,245.6 | 13,581.5 | 13,660.2 | 13,764.6 | 13,974.3 | 13,978.9 | 13,975.4 |
| (-) UNCLASSIFIED ASSETS (CoB) | 1,077.0 | 1,587.8 | 1,615.9 | 1,595.2 | 1,945.1 | 1,675.6 | 1,634.2 |
| UNCLASSIFIED LIABILITIES (CoB) | 1,083.2 | 1,330.3 | 1,412.9 | 1,674.2 | 1,968.1 | 1,476.8 | 1,936.6 |
| COMMERCIAL BANKS DEPOSITS (MA) | 2,391.4 | 2,956.7 | 3,080.5 | 3,422.5 | 3,369.6 | 3,426.6 | 3,662.2 |
| (-) RESERVES (CoB) | 2,856.9 | 3,384.8 | 3,482.1 | 3,816.9 | 4,197.6 | 4,228.1 | 4,193.1 |
| CURRENCY HOLDINGS (CoB) | 396.0 | 436.1 | 424.9 | 431.5 | 516.5 | 523.6 | 464.7 |
| LIABILITIES TO CENTRAL BANK (CoB) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| (-) CLAIMS ON DOMESTIC BANKS (MA) | 17.6 | 30.5 | 59.5 | 25.5 | 37.8 | 38.8 | 42.9 |
| (-) CLAIMS ON CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA (CoB) | 782.4 | 792.5 | 798.7 | 798.3 | 798.3 | 798.3 | 797.2 |
| (-) UNBALANCED ITEMS | (196.0) | (292.6) | (372.0) | (275.3) | (287.5) | (276.1) | (316.9) |
| VERTICAL CHECK | (0.0) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | (0.0) |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Table B-2: Currency in Circulation ( ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)

| End of Period | Currency in banks | Currency outside banks | Currency in circulation |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $(1)$ | $(2)$ | $(3)$ |
| Sep-07 | 396.0 | $2,557.0$ | $2,953.0$ |
| Jun-08 | 431.5 | $2,905.3$ | $3,336.7$ |
| Sep-08 | 464.7 | $2,894.0$ | $3,358.7$ |

## Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Table B-3: Money Supply and Broad Money
Liberian \& United States Dollars ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; ${ }^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)

|  | Sep-07 | Jun-08 | Sep-08 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BROAD MONEY | $\mathbf{1 0 , 8 3 3 . 8}$ | $\mathbf{1 3 , 9 3 7 . 9}$ | $\mathbf{1 5 , 3 8 9 . 2}$ |
| M1 | $8,258.6$ | $10,023.8$ | $11,485.2$ |
| CURRENCY OUTSIDE BANKS L\$ | $\mathbf{2 , 5 5 7 . 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 9 0 5 . 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 8 9 4 . 0}$ |
|  |  |  |  |
| DEMAND DEPOSITS (CoB) | $\mathbf{5 , 7 0 1 . 6}$ | $\mathbf{7 , 1 1 8 . 6}$ | $\mathbf{8 , 5 9 1 . 2}$ |
| US\$ component of demand deposits denominated to L\$ | $5,126.1$ | $6,489.8$ | $7,823.4$ |
| Liberian Dollars | 575.5 | 628.7 | 767.8 |
| TIME AND SAVINGS (CoB) | $\mathbf{2 , 5 7 5 . 2}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 9 1 4 . 1}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 9 0 4 . 0}$ |
| US\$ component of Time and Savings deposits denominated to L\$ | $1,798.4$ | $2,974.1$ | $2,824.5$ |
| Liberian Dollars | 776.8 | 940.0 | $1,079.5$ |
|  |  | $\mathbf{6 , 9 2 4 . 4}$ | $\mathbf{9 , 4 6 3 . 9}$ |
| US\$ component of Broad Money denominated to L\$ | $63.9 \%$ | $\mathbf{1 0 , 6 4 7 . 9}$ |  |
| Percentage share of US dollars in Broad Money | $\mathbf{6 1 . 5 0}$ | $\mathbf{6 3 . 5 0}$ | $\mathbf{6 3 . 9}$ |
| Exchange Rate |  | $69.2 \%$ |  |
| Source Cent |  |  |  |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia
Table B-4: Other Depository Corporations' Balance Sheet (3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; 2 $^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In ' $000 \mathrm{~L} \$$ )

|  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Qtr. 2007 | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter 2008 |  |  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter 2008 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASSETS | Sep-07 | Apr-08 | May-08 | Jun-08 | Jul-08 | Aug-08 | Sep-08 |
| RESERVES | 2,856,883 | 3,384,782 | 3,482,100 | 3,816,883 | 4,197,585 | 4,228,113 | 4,193,135 |
| CASH ON HAND: COINS/LD NOTES | 395,990 | 436,107 | 424,921 | 431,466 | 516,466 | 523,563 | 464,688 |
| FOREIGN ASSETS | 3,869,077 | 5,024,479 | 4,592,347 | 4,679,861 | 4,387,918 | 4,852,380 | 5,704,500 |
| CLAIMS ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT | 860,570 | 741,620 | 745,967 | 745,967 | 746,375 | 605,873 | 605,546 |
| CLAIMS ON PUBLIC CORPORATIONS | 138,400 | 65,627 | 58,790 | 75,161 | 66,475 | 55,743 | 62,136 |
| CLAIMS ON PRIVATE SECTOR | 3,817,415 | 5,457,794 | 5,712,516 | 5,514,944 | 5,728,829 | 5,948,664 | 6,282,797 |
| CLAIMS ON CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA | 782,377 | 792,508 | 798,686 | 798,296 | 798,296 | 798,296 | 797,168 |
| CLAIMS ON NBFIS | 8,703 | 180 | 356 | 1,006 | 1,159 | 1,511 | 894 |
| UNCLASSIFIED ASSETS | 1,076,983 | 1,587,847 | 1,615,882 | 1,595,190 | 1,945,064 | 1,675,630 | 1,634,151 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 13,410,407 | 17,054,837 | 17,006,645 | 17,227,307 | 17,871,701 | 18,166,211 | 19,280,327 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| LIABILITIES | Sep-07 | Apr-08 | May-08 | Jun-08 | Jul-08 | Aug-08 | Sep-08 |
| DEMAND DEPOSITS | 5,701,603 | 7,452,653 | 7,389,540 | 7,118,557 | 7,006,925 | 7,667,401 | 8,591,244 |
| TIME AND SAVINGS DEPOSITS | 2,575,154 | 3,601,835 | 3,778,246 | 3,914,100 | 4,021,882 | 4,175,494 | 3,903,994 |
| BONDS AND SECURITIES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| RESTRICTED DEPOSIT | 29,366 | 29,116 | 28,844 | 26,004 | 28,397 | 28,387 | 27,882 |
| FOREIGN LIABILITIES | 893,849 | 693,833 | 724,570 | 785,769 | 736,400 | 830,720 | 805,272 |
| GOVERNMENT DEPOSITS | 72,093 | 172,599 | 115,704 | 95,962 | 83,147 | 87,164 | 101,215 |
| LIABILITIES TO CENTRAL BANK | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CAPITAL ACCOUNTS | 3,055,106 | 3,774,492 | 3,556,829 | 3,612,749 | 4,026,836 | 3,900,255 | 3,914,090 |
| UNCLASSIFIED LIABILITIES | 1,083,236 | 1,330,309 | 1,412,912 | 1,674,166 | 1,968,115 | 1,476,791 | 1,936,629 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 13,410,407 | 17,054,837 | 17,006,645 | 17,227,307 | 17,871,701 | 18,166,210 | 19,280,327 |
| VERTICAL CHECK (ASSETS/LIABILITIES) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Table B-5: Sectoral Balance Sheet of Central Bank of Liberia ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $\mathbf{2 d}^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In ' 000 L )


Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia
Table B-6: Commercial Banks' Loans by Economic Sectors
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In '000’ L\$)

| SECTORS | 2007 |  | 2008 |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | 3 $^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | \%Share | 2nd Quarter | \%Share | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | \%Share |
| 1. Agriculture | 303,838 | 6.0 | 187,103 | 3.6 | 283,911 | 4.8 |
| 2. Mining \& Quarrying | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 34 | 0.0 |
| 3. Manufacturing | 64,213 | 1.3 | 134,932 | 2.6 | 168,329 | 2.8 |
| 4. Construction | 425,147 | 8.4 | 629,578 | 12.1 | 607,650 | 10.2 |
| 5. Trans., Storage \& Comm. | 196,529 | 3.9 | 635,349 | 12.2 | 710,760 | 11.9 |
| 6. Trade, Hotel \&Rest. | 721,970 | 14.3 | $1,586,326$ | 30.4 | $2,025,629$ | 33.9 |
| 7. Other | $3,340,742$ | 66.1 | $2,037,757$ | 39.1 | $2,172,769$ | 36.4 |
| Total | $\mathbf{5 , 0 5 2 , 4 3 8}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0 . 0}$ | $\mathbf{5 , 2 1 1 , 0 4 4}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0 . 0}$ | $\mathbf{5 , 9 6 9 , 0 8 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0 . 0}$ |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Table B-7: Central Bank of Liberia Foreign Exchange Auction Program

| July - September, 2008 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Auction No. | Date | FX Offered for sale by CBL(US\$) |  | Total Purchased US\$ | No. of Accepted Bids | No. of Rejected Bids | Value of Rejected Bids (US\$) | Over/(Under) Subscription (US\$) | Total Value of Bids Submitted by Participating Banks/FX Bureaux (US\$) |
| 112 | 2-Jul-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.901 | 500,000.00 | 11 | 18 | 567,523.04 | $(572,323.04)$ | 1,072,323.04 |
| 113 | 9-Jul-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.930 | 500,000.00 | 13 | 15 | 596,431.00 | (620,386.13) | 1,120,386.13 |
| 114 | 16-Jul-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.940 | 500,000.00 | 14 | 11 | 480,000.00 | (507,223.76) | 1,007,223.76 |
| 115 | 23-Jul-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.949 | 500,000.00 | 16 | 11 | 424,509.64 | $(640,149.64)$ | 1,140,149.64 |
| 116 | 30-Jul-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.958 | 500,000.00 | 12 | 11 | 581,937.22 | (592,781.71) | 1,092,781.71 |
| 117 | 6-Aug-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.959 | 500,000.00 | 13 | 15 | 580,646.58 | (614,961.58) | 1,114,961.58 |
| 118 | 13-Aug-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.960 | 500,000.00 | 13 | 13 | 468,510.00 | (573,704.95) | 1,073,704.95 |
| 119 | 20-Aug-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.960 | 500,000.00 | 13 | 10 | 382,482.45 | $(441,002.45)$ | 941,002.45 |
| 120 | 27-Aug-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.961 | 500,000.00 | 13 | 10 | 332,871.00 | $(425,162.97)$ | 925,162.97 |
| 121 | 3-Sep-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.809 | 500,000.00 | 11 | 14 | 533,746.49 | (558,671.49) | 1,058,671.49 |
| 122 | 10-Sep-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.840 | 500,000.00 | 11 | 10 | 398,251.10 | $(438,251.10)$ | 938,251.10 |
| 123 | 17-Sep-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.853 | 500,000.00 | 13 | 10 | 340,081.11 | $(374,547.37)$ | 874,547.37 |
| 124 | 24-Sep-08 | 500,000.00 | 61.860 | 500,000.00 | 11 | 11 | 448,512.78 | $(476,887.78)$ | 976,887.78 |
| Total |  | 6,500,000.00 |  | 6,500,000.00 | 164 | 159 | 6,135,502.41 | $(6,836,053.97)$ | 13,336,053.97 |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Table B-8: Exchange Rate Developments: Liberian Dollars per US Dollar (Monthly Averages)

|  | 2007 |  | 2008 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Buying | Selling | Buying | Selling |
| January | 60.57 | 61.65 | 62.96 | 64.00 |
| February | 60.21 | 61.13 | 62.20 | 63.20 |
| March | 60.00 | 61.01 | 62.00 | 63.01 |
| April | 60.40 | 61.54 | 62.06 | 63.08 |
| May | 61.22 | 62.17 | 62.78 | 63.56 |
| June | 62.02 | 63.00 | 63.00 | 64.00 |
| July | 60.77 | 61.71 | 63.00 | 64.00 |
| August | 61.91 | 62.91 | 63.00 | 64.00 |
| September | 61.12 | 62.12 | 63.00 | 63.94 |
| October | 61.13 | 62.15 |  |  |
| November | 59.65 | 60.67 |  |  |
| December | 60.27 | 61.27 |  |  |
| Q1 | 60.26 | 61.26 | 62.39 | 63.40 |
| Q2 | 61.21 | 62.24 | 62.93 | 63.85 |
| Q3 | 61.27 | 62.25 | 63.00 | 63.98 |
| Q4 | 60.35 | 61.36 |  |  |
| Year | 60.77 | 61.78 |  |  |

Source: Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Table C-1: Government of Liberia Revenue by Sources ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; 2 $^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)

|  | 2007 | $\mathbf{2 0 0 8}$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Revenue Category | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | 2nd Quarter | 3rd Quarter |
| Customs \& Excise | $\mathbf{1 , 1 2 8 . 1}$ | $1,268.6$ | $\mathbf{1 , 3 8 8 . 9}$ |
| Direct Taxes | 645.1 | $1,057.8$ | 923.8 |
| Indirect Taxes | 545.8 | 846.3 | 374.7 |
| FDA Levy | 5.9 | 17.0 | 17.1 |
| Petroleum Sales Levy | 55.5 | 121.7 | 123.0 |
| Maritime | 159.2 | 246.7 | 176.1 |
| Grants | - | 104.6 | 0.0 |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 , 5 3 9 . 6}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 6 6 2 . 7}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 0 0 3 . 6}$ |

${ }^{1}$ Forestry Development Authority
Source: Ministry of Finance, Monrovia, Liberia

Table C-2: Government of Liberia Expenditure by Category
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $\mathbf{2 d}^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In Millions L\$)

| Expenditure Category | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 8}$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }} \mathbf{Q u a r t e r}$ | $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter | $\mathbf{3}^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter |
|  | $1,107.1$ | 1199.4 | $1,474.9$ |
| Social \& Community Services | 316.2 | 671.7 | 871.5 |
| Economic Services | 143.4 | 256.5 | 161.1 |
| Other Expenditures | 944.4 | 1431.8 | $1,107.5$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 , 5 1 1 . 1}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 5 5 9 . 4}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 6 1 4 . 9}$ |

Source: Ministry of Finance, Monrovia, Liberia

Table C-3: Summary Estimate of External Debt Stock
As at End-June and End-September, 2008
( In Millions US\$)

|  | Estimate of <br> External Debt as at <br> June, 2008 | Estimate of <br> External Debt as at <br> September, 2008 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Multilateral | $1,615.0$ | $1,051.0$ |
| Bilateral | $1,543.0$ | 700.0 |
| Commercial Creditors | $1,574.0$ | $1,574.0$ |
| International Organizations | - | 34.0 |
| Total | $\mathbf{4 , 7 3 2 . 0}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 3 5 9 . 0}$ |

Source: Ministry of Finance, Monrovia, Liberia
Table C - 4: Functional Classification of Government Expenditure
( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)

| Functional Classification | In Mimons L\$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 2008 |  |
|  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter | $2{ }^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter |
| General Administration | 1,107.1 | 1,199.4 | 1,474.87 |
| National Legislature | 120.0 | 362.3 | 226.76 |
| Executive Policy | 323.5 | 388.0 | 669.63 |
| Internal Management Services | 78.2 | 47.5 | 120.90 |
| Protection of Person \& Property | 509.1 | 250.6 | 339.87 |
| Foreign Affairs | 36.9 | 109.2 | 59.09 |
| Defense | 39.4 | 41.8 | 58.62 |
| Social \& Community Services | 316.2 | 671.7 | 871.46 |
| Social Services | 148.6 | 439.7 | 658.13 |
| Community Services | 167.6 | 232.0 | 213.33 |
| Economic Services | 143.4 | 256.5 | 161.08 |
| Primary | 74.9 | 140.1 | 33.72 |
| Secondary | 68.5 | 116.4 | 127.36 |
| Other Expenditure | 944.4 | 1,431.8 | 1,107.49 |
| Total | 2,511.1 | 3,559.4 | 3,614.90 |

Source: Ministry of Finance, Monrovia, Liberia

Table D-1: Commodity Composition of Exports ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In ‘000 US\$)

| Commodity <br> Exports | Unit | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} \\ \text { Quarter, } \\ 2007 \end{gathered}$ | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter, 2008 |  |  | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2008 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { (In } \\ \text { ‘000’ } \\ \text { Units) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Price | $\begin{gathered} \text { (In ‘000’ } \\ \text { US\$) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { (In } \\ \text { '000 } \\ \text { Units) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Price | $\begin{gathered} \text { (In ‘000’ } \\ \text { US\$) } \end{gathered}$ |
| Rubber | Mt. | 52,024.7 | 25.8 | 2,269.3 | 58,547.1 | 20.5 | 2,607.4 | 53,452.6 |
| Cocoa Beans | Mt. | 19.7 | 1.2 | 762.8 | 915.4 | 0.5 | 732.0 | 366.0 |
| Iron Ore | Mt. | - | 0.0 | - | - | - | 60.0 | 1,200.0 |
| Diamond | Carat | - | 12.8 | 253.1 | 3,239.7 | 20.0 | 245.7 | 4,256.8 |
| Gold | Ounce | - | 5.1 | 685.7 | 3,497.1 | 17.3 | 607.6 | 2,916.4 |
| Others* | - | 1,504.1 | 0.0 | - | 1,359.5 | 4.8 | - | 2,068.7 |
| Total |  | 53,548.5 |  |  | 67,558.8 |  |  | 64,260.6 |

* Other commodities of minimal values

Sources: Ministries of Commerce \& Industry, Lands, Mines, \& Energy and Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

Table D-2: Commodity Composition of Imports ( $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter, 2007; $2^{\text {nd }} \& 3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarters, 2008)
(In '000’ US\$)

| Imports | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} \text { Quarter, } \\ 2007 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2^{\text {nd }} \text { Quarter, } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 3^{\text {rd }} \text { Quarter, } \\ 2008 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Food \& Live Animals | 39,206.9 | 22,933 | 79,369.5 |
| O/w: Commercial Rice/ ${ }^{1}$ | 19,940.8 | 5,783.8 | 47,791.9 |
| O/w: Non-commercial Rice |  | - | 5,598.8 |
| Beverages \& Tobacco | 4,408.2 | 4,741.7 | 3,133.1 |
| Crude Materials \& Inedible except Fuel | 1,635.2 | 1,957.4 | 2,784.7 |
| Minerals, Fuel \& Lubricants/ ${ }^{2}$ | 1,411.1 | 2,657.3 | 1,429.6 |
| Vegetable Oil (Animal) | 4,173.4 | 243.1 | 357.1 |
| Chemical \& Related Products | 6,403.1 | 8,189.3 | 10,877.7 |
| Mfg. Goods classified chiefly by materials | 29,259.4 | 27,647.7 | 34,679.0 |
| Machinery \& Transport Equipment | 25,950.4 | 77,078.6 | 44,004.2 |
| Petroleum Products | 28,252.7 | 33,684.8 | 57,985.4 |
| Miscellaneous Articles/ ${ }^{3}$ | 10,011.0 | 9,012.0 | 27,864.3 |
| Total | 150,711.4 | 188,145.4 | 262,484.6 |

[^6]
[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ The economy in 2008 was initially projected to grow at 9.4 percent but was adjusted to 8.8 percent and readjusted finally to 7.1 percent.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ Currency in circulation includes currency in banks plus currency outside banks in the hands of the non-bank public

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ Money Supply (M1) is narrowly defined as currency outside banks plus demand deposits.

[^3]:    ${ }^{4}$ M2 is defined as M1 plus savings and time deposits or quasi-money with commercial banks

[^4]:    ${ }^{5}$ Debt numbers are provisional

[^5]:    * SDWT = Summer Dead Weight Tons

    Source: National Port Authority (NPA), Monrovia, Liberia

[^6]:    ${ }^{1 / R i c e}$ import is now being reported as separate item in the merchandise import category as recommended by the IMF.
    ${ }^{2 / T h i s}$ category of merchandise import reported by MCI excludes petroleum import to avoid double counting.
    ${ }^{3}$ Include Commodities and transactions not elsewhere classified
    Sources: Ministry of Commerce \& Industry and Central Bank of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia

