

# NET DOMESTIC ASSETS INCREASED WHILE NET FOREIGN ASSETS DECREASED

Summary of the Monthly Bulletin of September 2022

Press Release<sup>1</sup>

### Monetary developments

In September 2022, money supply expanded by Afl. 17.3 million to Afl. 5,394.3 million, compared to August 2022, resulting from a surge in net domestic assets (+Afl. 189.9 million) and a drop in net foreign assets (-Afl. 172.6 million).

The expansion in the domestic component of the money supply was caused by a growth in domestic credit (+Afl. 193.6 million) and a decrease in non-credit-related balance sheet items (-Afl. 3.7 million). The rise in domestic credit was due to a surge in the net claims of the banking sector on the public sector (+Afl. 178.5 million) and higher claims of the banking sector on the private sector (+Afl. 15.0 million). The growth in net claims of the banking sector on the public sector was the result of a decline in government deposits (-Afl. 184.6 million). The increase in claims of the banking sector on the private sector was caused by higher loans to enterprises (+Afl. 8.7 million), housing mortgages (+Afl. 4.1 million), and consumer credit (+Afl. 2.2 million).

In September 2022, the decline in net foreign assets of the banking sector was due to net sales of foreign exchange of Afl. 452.8 million to the public, mainly associated with portfolio investment and payments for goods imports. These were partly offset by net purchases of foreign exchange of Afl. 280.2 million from the public, mostly related to foreign exchange revenue from tourism exports.

#### Inflation

The consumer price index (CPI) for September 2022 noted a 7.0 percent rise year-over-year (YOY) compared to a 7.7 percent increase (YOY) for August 2022. The main contributors to this increase were the "Housing" and "Transport" components. The 12-month average inflation rate was 4.7 percent in September 2022, compared to 4.3 percent in August 2022.

## Government

Total government revenue amounted to Afl. 97.7 million in September 2022, Afl. 8.9 million more than the same month of the previous year. The expansion in government revenue resulted from an increase in tax revenue (+Afl. 14.5 million) and a decrease in nontax revenue (-Afl. 5.6 million).

The growth in tax revenue was driven by expansion in income from turnover tax (B.B.O./B.A.V.P.) (+Afl. 3.0 million), import duties (+Afl. 3.2 million), wage tax (+Afl. 2.6 million), land tax (+Afl. 2.2 million), and transfer tax (+Afl. 2.1 million).

#### Tourism

The number of stay-over visitors amounted to 78,261 in September 2022, which is 17,968 visitors (+29.8 percent) more than in September 2021. The North American market, the Latin American market, and the European market increased by 10,723 visitors (+22.2 percent), 3,226 visitors (+62.5 percent), and 2,843 visitors (+54.1 percent), respectively.

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For further information or a more detailed analysis, visit our website (www.cbaruba.org) or contact the Statistics Department of the Centrale Bank van Aruba, tel. +297-525-2100, e-mail <u>statistics.department@cbaruba.org</u>.

<sup>1</sup> The English original prevails.