





# **RESERVE BANK OF MALAWI**

## FINANCIAL MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

(In Millions of Malawi Kwacha, unless otherwise specified)

Wednesday, 27th February 2019

## A. THE BANKING SYSTEM LIQUIDITY EXPECTATIONS

# i. Liquidity Projections

|   | Today  | Week ending<br>1 <sup>st</sup> March 2019 |
|---|--------|---|
| Projected Autonomous Transactions (+= Net injection / - = Net withdrawal) | 3,150  | -3,785                                    |
| Estimated Excess Reserves before OMO                                      | 43,095 | 36,160                                    |
| Estimated Excess Reserves after OMO                                       | 0      | 0   |
| Required Reserves   | 50,147 | 50,147                                    |

#### ii. Known Projected Transactions

|                                   | Week ending<br>15 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 | Week ending<br>22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2019 | February 2019 | Week ending<br>1st March 2019 |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Maturity of normal<br>TBs/TNs/PNs | 5,012   | 13,406  | 53,737        | 31,106                        |
| Maturity of OMO Repos             | 7,564   | 26,292  | 60,320        | 36,554                        |

#### Commentary:

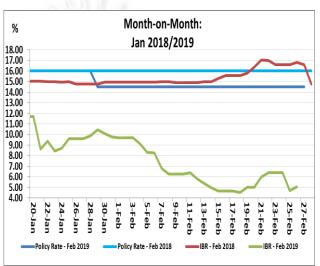
Excess reserves increased to K39.94 billion on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019, from K30.52 billion recorded on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

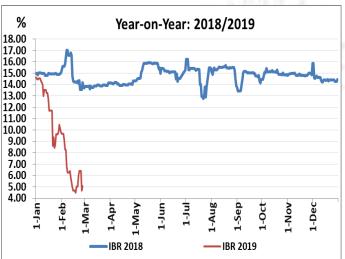
#### **B. INTER-BANK MARKET DEVELOPMENTS**

# i. Previous Trading Day's Domestic Money Market Activity

| (a) Inter-bank borrowing           | Volume (Mk' mn) | Average rate (%) |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| O/N                                | 15,000          | 5.07             |
| 2 days                             |                 |                  |
| 7 days                             |                 |                  |
| (b) RBM Open market operations     |                 |                  |
| (i) Repos                          |                 |                  |
| O/N                                | -               | -                |
| 7 days                             | -               | -                |
| 14 days                            | -               | -                |
| 30 days                            | -               | -                |
| 60 days                            | -               | -                |
| 91 days                            | -               | -                |
| (ii) Reverse Repos                 |                 |                  |
| 7 days                             | -               | -                |
| 30 days                            | -               | -                |
| 60 days                            | -               | -                |
| (c) Access on the Lombard Facility | -               | -                |

#### **Weighted Average Interbank Rates**





### Commentary:

- Traded volume on the overnight interbank market increased to K15.00 billion on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019, from K5.50 billion on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019.
- The overnight interbank market rate (IBR) increased by 39 (bps) basis points and stood at 5.07 percent on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019 from 4.68 percent on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

# C. FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

### i. Gross Official Foreign Reserves Position

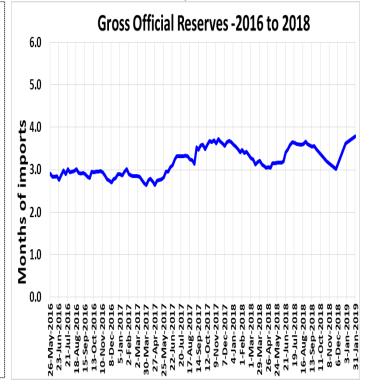
(Foreign reserves under the direct control of the Central Bank)

| Date (US\$ million)       | Reserves<br>(US\$ million) | Import Cover *<br>(Months) |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 31 <sup>st</sup> Aug 2018 | 753.52                     | 3.61                       |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> Sep 2018 | 727.63                     | 3.48                       |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct 2018 | 669.92                     | 3.20                       |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2018 | 631.21                     | 3.04                       |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2018 | 755.22                     | 3.61                       |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2019 | 790.28                     | 3.78                       |

<sup>\*</sup> US\$209.0 million per month is used in this calculation

## Commentary:

 Gross official reserves increased during January 2019 to \$790.228 million (3.78 months of imports) from \$755.22 million (3.61 months of imports) at the end of the preceding month.



#### ii. Private Sector Foreign Exchange Reserves

(Foreign reserves under the direct control of authorized dealer banks (ADBs) which consists of ADBs own forex positions and foreign currency denominated accounts balances of their clients)

| Date (US\$ mn)            | ADBs<br>Own<br>Position | FCDA   | Total  | Import<br>Cover *<br>(Months) |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|-------------------------------|
| 31st Oct 2018             | 0.80                    | 328.43 | 329.23 | 1.58                          |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2018 | 1.63                    | 336.28 | 337.92 | 1.62                          |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2018 | 2.37                    | 328.47 | 330.84 | 1.58                          |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2019 | -4.89                   | 324.01 | 319.12 | 1.53                          |

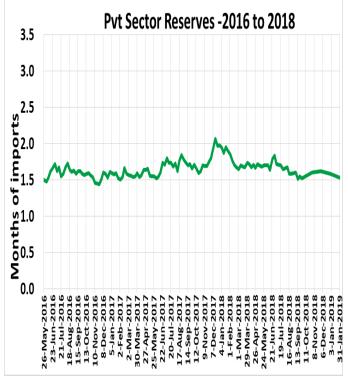
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#### ADBs FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRADING ACTIVITY

| Week Ending (US\$ mn)        | ADBs Purchases | ADBs Sales |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2019     | 25.06          | 25.42      |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2019    | 35.89          | 38.34      |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 2019    | 31.07          | 39.68      |
| On 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 | 5.49           | 5.87       |

#### Commentary:

ADBs FX trading slightly dropped during the week ending 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019 compared to the previous week. ADBs purchased a total of US\$31.07 million from the market and sold a total of US\$39.68 million during the week. On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019, ADBs purchased US\$5.49 million from the market and sold US\$5.87 million.

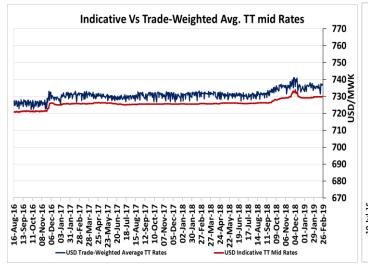


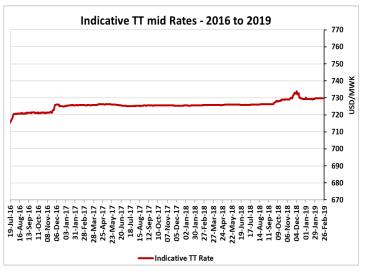
### iii. Exchange Rate Developments

|         | 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 | 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb 2019 | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 2019 | 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 | 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 | Today's indicative Rates |
|---------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| MWK/USD | 736.2568                  | 737.2752                  | 736.9124                  | 737.1544                  | 736.3637                  | 729.8927                 |
| MWK/GBP | 963.2198                  | 957.7729                  | 960.5451                  | 962.1429                  | 966.5198                  | 966.4509                 |
| MWK/EUR | 831.3757                  | 831.7107                  | 835.5957                  | 830.9545                  | 835.1566                  | 830.3259                 |
| MWK/ZAR | 52.1509                   | 52.2995                   | 52.7858                   | 52.9566                   | 53.0625                   | 52.6998                  |

Note: Reported rates are closing weighted average TT mid-rates based on actual trades except for today's rates that are indicative and based on market consensus

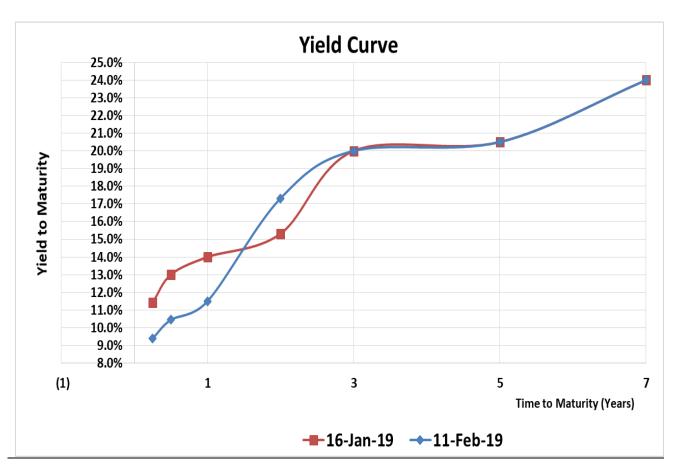
**Commentary**: On Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019, the Kwacha appreciated against the USD but depreciated against the GBP, the EUR and the ZAR. Indicatively, the local currency is expected to be trading at 729.8927 per US Dollar today, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019.





# D. INDICATIVE YIELD CURVE FOR GOVERNMENT SECURITIES (Based on Market Consensus)

| Tenor   | 91 day | 182 day | 364 day | 2 Year | 3 Year | 5 Year | 7 Year |
|---|--------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2017                    | 14.44% | 14.75%  | 16.00%  | 19.18% | 20.06% | 20.64% | 21.09% |
| 14th December 2017                                | 14.93% | 15.50%  | 16.00%  | 17.21% | 18.61% | 20.71% | 21.43% |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2018                     | 14.00% | 14.50%  | 15.00%  | 17.02% | 19.24% | 22.02% | 22.51% |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2018                     | 13.91% | 14.50%  | 15.00%  | 17.79% | 20.00% | 23.01% | 23.54% |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2018                    | 14.00% | 14.50%  | 15.00%  | 17.79% | 18.53% | 23.01% | 23.54% |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2018                       | 14.00% | 14.50%  | 15.00%  | 17.79% | 18.09% | 21.01% | 22.04% |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2018                      | 14.06% | 14.63%  | 15.33%  | 18.11% | 19.38% | 20.98% | 22.93% |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2019                     | 11.42% | 13.00%  | 14.00%  | 15.32% | 20.00% | 20.50% | 24.00% |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2019                    | 9.40%  | 10.45%  | 11.50%  | 17.32% | 20.00% | 20.50% | 24.00% |
| 11 Feb 2019 – 16 Jan 2018<br>Change in Yield (Bp) | (2.02) | (2.55)  | (2.50)  | 2.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   |



<u>DISCLAIMER:</u> This information is provided for general reference purposes only. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that the information is up to date and Accurate, the Reserve Bank of Malawi does not accept responsibility for any loss that may arise from reliance on the information contained herein.