



# THE NATIONAL TREASURY & ECONOMIC PLANNING

## MONTHLY DEBT BULLETIN

### DECEMBER 2023

#### I.1 Introduction

The total nominal public and publicly guaranteed debt stock as at end of December 2023 was Ksh. 11,139.69 billion (69.1 percent of GDP<sup>1</sup>) equivalent to USD 71.20 billion. Domestic debt stock was Ksh. 5,050.11 billion (31.3 percent of GDP), equivalent to USD<sup>2</sup> 32.28 billion, while the external debt stock was Ksh. 6,089.58 billion (37.8 percent of GDP), equivalent to USD 38.92 billion. Domestic and external debt stock accounted for 45.3 percent and 54.7 percent of total debt stock, respectively.

#### I.2 Movement in Exchange Rates

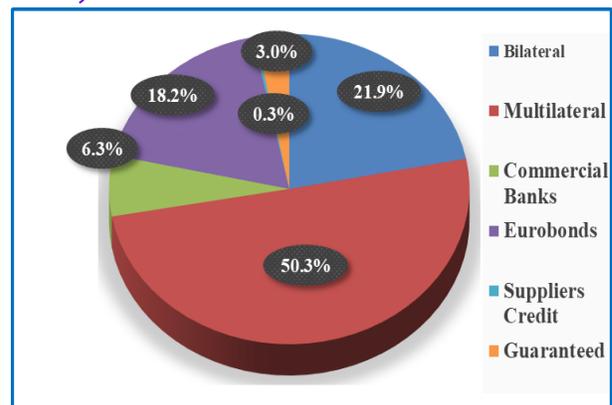
Kenya's public and publicly guaranteed debt is denominated in five major currencies, namely the USD, Euro, Yen, Yuan and Sterling Pound. During the month under review, the Kenya shilling depreciated against the USD by 2.2 percent, Yen by 6.9 percent and 2.6 percent against the Yuan, Euro by 3.3 percent and Sterling Pound by 2.8 percent. The base<sup>3</sup> exchange rates for the aforementioned five currencies, notably the USD, Euro, Yen, Yuan and Sterling Pound were Ksh. 153.15, Ksh. 168.22, Ksh. 103.87, Ksh. 21.49 and Ksh. 194.46 respectively.

#### I.3 Size of Public and Publicly Guaranteed External Debt

Overall, the National Government's external debt stock increased by Ksh. 193.08 billion from Ksh 5,896.50 billion in November 2023 to Ksh. 6,089.58 billion in December 2023. This was attributed to disbursements made during the month and the depreciation of the Kenya shilling against

major currencies. Debt owed to bilateral creditors increased by Ksh 30.08 billion from Ksh. 1,301.32 billion to Ksh. 1,331.40 billion while multilateral debt increased by Ksh. 98.17 billion from Ksh. 2,962.94 billion to Ksh. 3,061.11 billion. Commercial debt increased by Ksh. 58.12 billion from Ksh. 1,455.88 billion to Ksh. 1,513.99 billion during the same period. Publicly guaranteed external debt marginally increased by 6.71 billion from Ksh. 176.37 billion in November 2023 to Ksh. 183.08 billion in December 2023.

Chart I: External Debt Composition as at end of December 2023 (As a percentage of total External Debt)



Source: National Treasury

#### I.4 Movement of Domestic Debt

The domestic debt stock increased by Ksh. 59.36 billion from Ksh. 4,990.75 billion in November 2023 to Ksh. 5,050.11 billion in December 2023. The stock of Treasury bills decreased by Ksh. 8.72 billion from Ksh. 555.62 billion to Ksh. 546.90 billion whereas stock of Treasury bonds increased by

<sup>1</sup> Kshs. 16,131.50 billion

<sup>2</sup> Kshs to USD 156.46

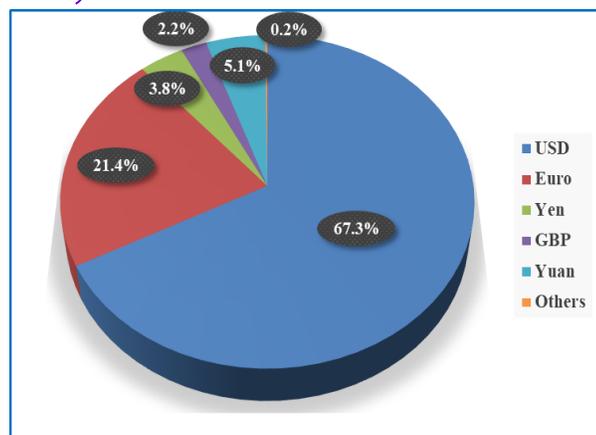
<sup>3</sup> End November 2023 is the base month for all parameters

Ksh. 46.91 billion from Ksh 4,224.91 billion to Ksh 4,271.82 billion during the same period. Others including pre-1997 CBK debt, Government overdraft at the Central Bank of Kenya, advances from commercial banks and IMF SDR Allocation increased by Ksh 21.17 billion from Ksh 210.22 billion to Ksh 231.39 billion during the same period.

### I.5 Currency composition of external debt

The proportion of external debt denominated in USD, Euro, Yen, Yuan and Sterling Pound was at 67.3 percent, 21.4 percent, 3.8 percent, 5.1 percent and 2.2 percent respectively. Other currencies<sup>4</sup> accounted for 0.2 percent of total external debt (Chart 2). The Government is currently exercising currency diversification with an aim of mitigating the exchange rate risk on external debt.

**Chart 2: External Debt by Currency Composition as at end December 2023 (As percent of Total External Debt)**



*Source: National Treasury*

### I.6 Actual Cumulative External Debt Service

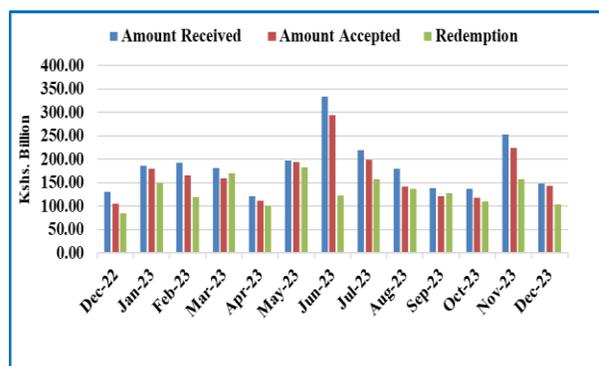
The actual cumulative external debt service as at end December 2023 was Ksh. 246.49 billion against a target of 879.46 billion. External debt service during the month of December 2023 was Ksh 33.62 billion, comprising principal repayments and interest payments of Ksh. 19.15 billion and Ksh. 14.47 billion respectively. Debt service to bilateral creditors

accounted for 42.5 percent of the total cumulative debt service while commercial, multilateral creditors and guarantees accounted for 34.6 percent, 20.1 percent and 2.8 percent, respectively.

### I.7 Domestic Borrowing

During the month of December 2023, Government securities amounting to Ksh. 121.00 billion were advertised. Bids worth Ksh. 147.77 billion were received, comprising of Ksh. 99.90 billion and Ksh. 47.87 billion Treasury bills and bonds respectively. Bids worth Ksh. 144.00 billion were successful, out of which Ksh. 96.13 billion and Ksh. 47.87 billion were Treasury bills and bonds respectively. The monthly Treasury bills redemptions were Ksh. 104.02 (Chart 3). In aggregate, the exchequer had a surplus of Ksh. 39.98 billion during the month.

**Chart 3: Government Securities Performance from December 2022 to December 2023 in Ksh. Billions**



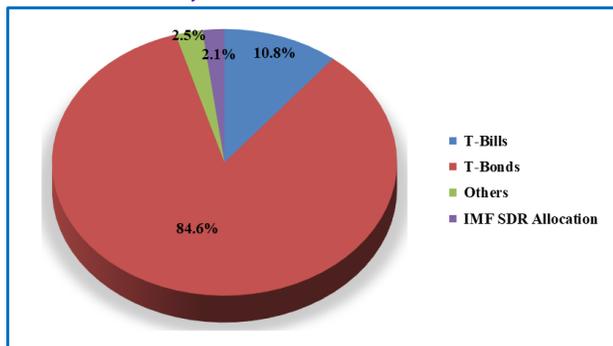
*Source: National Treasury*

### I.8 Domestic Debt by Instruments

As at the end of December 2023, the ratio of bonds to bills was 85:11. The Government overdraft at the Central Bank of Kenya and historical bank advances from commercial accounted for 2.5 percent while IMF SDR Allocation accounted for 2.1 percent of domestic debt stock during the same period (Chart 4).

<sup>4</sup> Other currencies include Danish Kroner, African Unit of Account, Kuwait Dinar, Korean won, Indian Rupee, Canadian Dollar, Saudi Riyal, Swedish Kroner and Emirati Dirham

**Chart 4: Stock of Domestic debt instruments as at the end of December 2023 (Percentage of Total Domestic Debt)**



*Source: National Treasury*

### I.9 Net Domestic Financing

The net domestic borrowing as at end of December 2023 was Ksh. 264.24 billion against an annual target of Ksh. 422.75 billion for FY 2023/24.

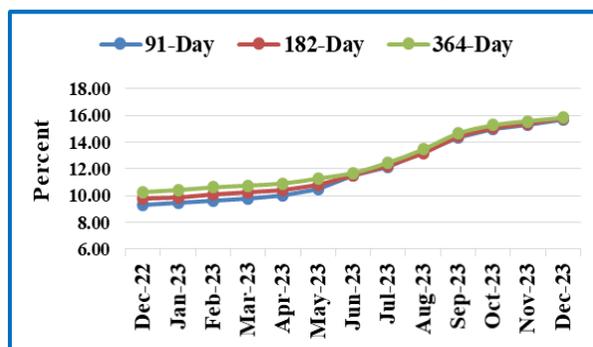
### I.10 Cumulative Domestic Interest Payments

As at end of December 2023, the actual cumulative domestic interest payment amounted to Ksh. 300.12 billion against a cumulative target of 646.36 billion for FY 2023/24. Interest payments for Treasury bonds and bills in the month of December amounted to Ksh. 46.35 billion and Ksh. 5.80 billion, respectively. The interest payment on the overdraft was Ksh. 0.98 billion.

### I.11 Average Interest rates for Treasury Bills

On average, there was a marginal change in interest rate for Treasury bills during the month. The average interest rates for 91-day, 182-day, and 364-day Treasury bills increased to 15.70 percent, 15.80 percent and 15.81 percent in December 2023 from 15.32 percent, 15.39 percent and 15.57 percent in November 2023, respectively as shown in Chart 5.

**Chart 5: Average Interest rates for Treasury Bills from December 2022 to December 2023**



*Source: National Treasury*

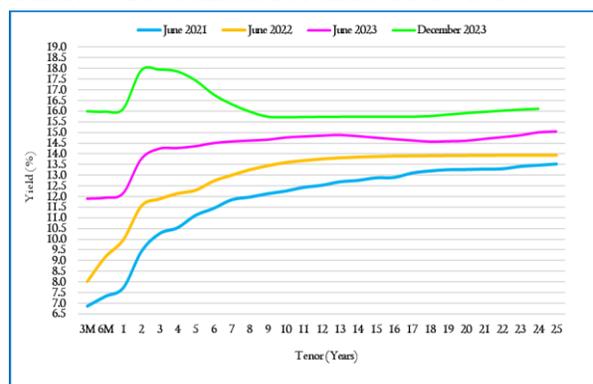
The average interest rates for the 91-day, 182-day and 364-day Treasury bills increased by 38, 41 and 25 basis points, respectively.

### I.12 Government Securities Yields

The interest rates have been on the rise both in the international capital markets and domestic market following monetary policy tightening by the Central Banks both in the advanced and developing economies to contain inflationary pressures.

The 91 Day Treasury bill interest rates has increased from 6.86 percent at end June 2021 to 15.98 percent as at end December 2023 (912 basis points increase) as shown in Chart 6.

**Chart 6: Government Securities Yield Curve**



*Source: Nairobi Stock Exchange*

### I.13 Average Time to Maturity for Treasury Bonds

The Average Time to Maturity (ATM) for Treasury Bonds during the month of December 2023 was 8.3 years.

## I.14 Sovereign Credit Rating

Kenya was assigned a B sovereign credit rating by Standard & Poor's (S&P) and Fitch in 2006, and 2007, respectively. It was assigned a B+, equivalent of BI rating by Moody's in 2012, which was the only rating agency to upgrade Kenya's sovereign rating to B2 in 2018. S&P did cut Kenya's ratings outlook from stable to negative. While Fitch credited Kenya at B with a negative outlook and B3 with a negative outlook by Moody's (Annex I). The variations in the credit rating scores of the three agencies shows the influence of subjectivity and the perceptions generated in the qualitative analysis.

In order for Kenya to graduate to investment grade (BBB-) and attract cheaper debt from global markets there is need for: actualizing the long planned fiscal consolidation; improvement of export sector performance and expand foreign reserves accumulation; promotion of economic growth to boost GDP per Capita; and improve on food production, access and affordability in order to lower and stabilize the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER), among others.

### ANNEX I: KENYA'S CREDIT RATING

Agency	Rating	Outlook	Date
Moody's	B3	Negative	July 28 2023
Fitch	B	Negative	July 20 2023
Standard and Poors	B	Negative	Feb 28 2023
Fitch	B	Stable	Dec 14 2022
Standard and Poors	B	Stable	Aug 25 2022
Standard and Poors	B	Stable	Mar 05 2021
Standard and Poors	B+	Negative	Jul 14 2020
Fitch	B+	Negative	Jun 19 2020
Moody's	B2	Negative	May 07 2020
Moody's	B2	Stable	Feb 13 2018
Fitch Rating	B+	Stable	Feb 09 2018
Moody's	B1	Under Review	Oct 02 2017
Standard and Poors	B+	Stable	Oct 14 2016
Standard and Poors	B+	Negative	Oct 16 2015
Fitch Rating	B+	Negative	Jul 17 2015
Moody's	B1	Stable	Nov 08 2012
Standard and Poors	B+	Stable	Nov 19 2010
Fitch Rating	B+	Stable	Jan 16 2009
Standard and Poors	B	Positive	Aug 04 2008
Standard and Poors	B	Stable	Mar 10 2008
Standard and Poors	B	Negative	Feb 04 2008
Fitch Rating	B+	Negative	Jan 30 2008
Fitch Rating	B+	Stable	Dec 12 2007
Standard and Poors	B+	Stable	Sept 08 2006

Source: National Treasury

### ANNEX II: STOCK OF PUBLIC AND PUBLICLY GUARANTEED EXTERNAL DEBT BY SOURCE AS AT THE END OF DECEMBER 2023 IN KSH MILLIONS

CREDITOR	Stock at the End November 2023	Stock at the End December 2023	CHANGE
<b>BILATERAL</b>			
BELGIUM	27,459.45	28,040.14	580.69
AUSTRIA	2,109.48	2,132.59	23.11
DENMARK	392.03	403.44	11.41
FINLAND	599.59	619.41	19.83
FRANCE	117,846.59	117,928.57	81.98
GERMANY	52,368.88	52,635.28	266.41
ITALY	32,129.37	33,190.51	1,061.14
JAPAN	105,499.84	109,973.49	4,473.64
USA	1,169.67	1,162.92	-6.75
SPAIN	16,425.42	16,546.87	121.45
Other PARIS CLUB	2,246.37	2,294.95	48.58
Other NON -PARIS CLUB	26,088.17	26,646.53	558.36
CHINA	916,982.17	939,821.24	22,839.07
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1,301,317.03</b>	<b>1,331,395.95</b>	<b>30,078.92</b>
<b>MULTILATERAL</b>			
ADB/ADF	576,812.52	593,306.62	16,494.10
EEC/EIB	31,017.37	32,008.89	991.53
IDA	1,721,075.36	1,787,757.37	66,682.01
IFAD	39,574.90	40,623.98	1,049.08
IMF	412,637.46	421,538.30	8,900.84
Others	181,818.32	185,872.79	4,054.47
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>2,962,935.92</b>	<b>3,061,107.96</b>	<b>98,171.94</b>
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>			
Commercial Bank	351,383.73	385,477.49	34,093.76
International Sovereign Bond	1,087,365.00	1,110,878.78	23,513.78
Suppliers Credit	17,127.26	17,641.45	514.18
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1,455,875.99</b>	<b>1,513,997.72</b>	<b>58,121.73</b>
<b>Total Central Government</b>	<b>5,720,128.93</b>	<b>5,906,501.62</b>	<b>186,372.69</b>
<b>GUARANTEED</b>			
JAPAN	83,262.62	88,720.60	5,457.98
GERMANY	2,765.00	2,063.31	(701.69)
Kenya Airways (Commercial Debt)	90,345.76	92,299.45	1,953.69
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>176,373.39</b>	<b>183,083.36</b>	<b>6,709.97</b>
<b>CENTRAL GOVERNMENT+ GUARANTEED TOTAL DEBT</b>	<b>5,896,502.32</b>	<b>6,089,584.98</b>	<b>193,082.66</b>

Source: National Treasury

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