



THE NATIONAL TREASURY & ECONOMIC PLANNING

MONTHLY DEBT BULLETIN

AUGUST 2023

I.1 Introduction

The total nominal public and publicly guaranteed debt stock as at end of August 2023 was Ksh 10,523.86 billion (65.2 percent of GDP¹) equivalent to USD 72.38 billion. Domestic debt stock was Ksh 4,909.77 billion (30.4 percent of GDP), equivalent to USD² 33.77 billion, while the external debt stock was Ksh 5,614.09 billion (34.8 percent of GDP), equivalent to USD 38.61 billion. Domestic and external debt stock accounted for 46.7 percent and 53.3 percent of total debt stock, respectively.

I.2 Movement in Exchange Rates

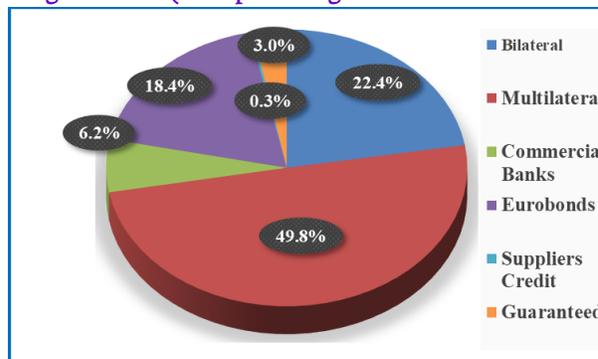
Kenya's public and publicly guaranteed debt is denominated in five major currencies, namely the USD, Euro, Yen, Yuan and Sterling Pound. During the month under review, the Kenya shilling appreciated against the Japanese Yen by 0.6 percent and depreciated against the USD, Euro, Sterling Pound and Chinese Yuan by 2.1 percent, 1.3 percent, 0.9 percent and 0.3 percent respectively. The base³ exchange rates for the aforementioned five currencies, notably the USD, Euro, Yen, Yuan and Sterling Pound were Ksh 142.36, Ksh 156.61, Ksh 100.36, Ksh 19.91 and Ksh 182.97 respectively.

I.3 Size of Public and Publicly Guaranteed External Debt

Overall, the Public and publicly Guaranteed Government's external debt stock increased by Ksh 71.45 billion from Ksh 5,542.64 billion in June 2023 to Ksh 5,614.09 billion in August 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 16.88 billion from Ksh 1,239.25 billion to Ksh 1,256.13 billion while multilateral debt increased by Ksh 42.46 billion from Ksh 2,752.21 billion to Ksh 2,794.67 billion. Commercial debt increased by Ksh 11.51 billion from Ksh 1,381.88 billion to Ksh 1,393.39 billion during the same period. Publicly guaranteed external debt marginally increased by 0.61 billion from Ksh 169.30 billion in July 2023 to Ksh 169.90 billion in August 2023.

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



Source: National Treasury

I.4 Movement of Domestic Debt

The domestic debt stock increased by Ksh 38.79 billion from Ksh 4,870.98 billion in July 2023 to Ksh 4,909.77 billion in August 2023. The stock of Treasury bills decreased by Ksh 17.43 billion from Ksh 585.13 billion to Ksh 567.70 billion whereas stock of Treasury bonds increased by Ksh 42.48 billion from Ksh 4,097.24 billion to Ksh 4,139.72 billion during the same period. Others including Pre-1997 debt, Government overdraft at the Central Bank of Kenya, advances from commercial banks and

¹ Ksh 16,131.50 billion

² Ksh to USD 145.41

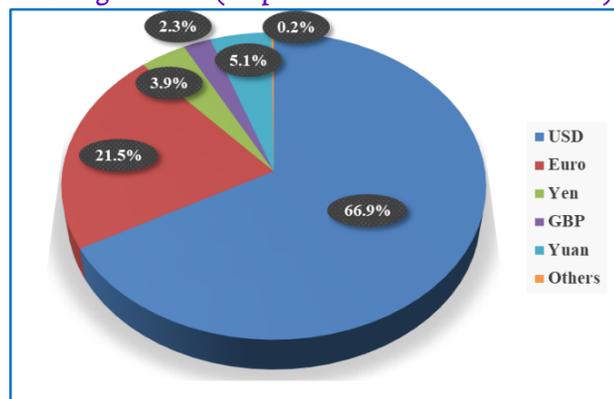
³ End July 2023 is the base month for all parameters

IMF SDR allocation increased by Kshs 13.74 billion from Ksh 188.60 billion to Ksh 202.35 billion during the same period.

1.5 Currency composition of external debt

The proportion of external debt denominated in USD, Euro, Yen, Yuan and Sterling Pound was at 66.9 percent, 21.5 percent, 3.9 percent, 5.1 percent and 2.3 percent respectively. Other currencies⁴ accounted for 0.2 percent of total external debt (Chart 2). The Government continues to exercise currency diversification with the aim of mitigating the exchange rate risk on external debt.

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



Source: National Treasury

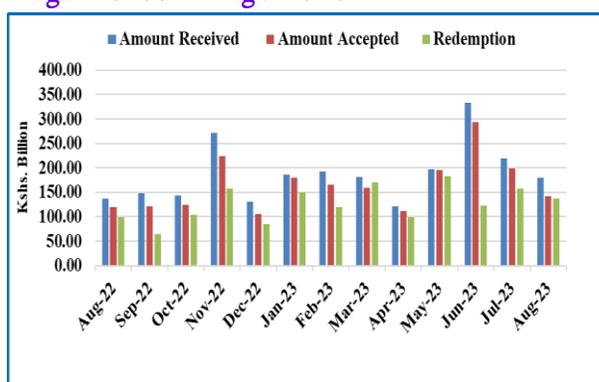
1.6 Actual Cumulative External Debt Service

The actual cumulative external debt service as at end August 2023 was Ksh 129.63 billion against a target of 879.46 billion. External debt service during the month of August 2023 was Ksh 47.86 billion, comprising principal repayments and interest payments of Ksh 25 billion and Ksh 22.86 billion respectively. Debt service to bilateral creditors accounted for 57.0 percent of the total cumulative debt service while commercial, multilateral creditors and guarantees accounted for 29.9 percent, 11.0 percent and 2.1 percent, respectively.

1.7 Domestic Borrowing

During the month of August 2023, Government securities amounting to Ksh 136.00 billion were advertised. Bids worth Ksh 179.91 billion were received, comprising of Ksh 126.90 billion and Ksh 53.01 billion for Treasury bills and bonds respectively. Bids worth Ksh 141.23 billion were successful, out of which Ksh 122.11 billion and Ksh 19.12 billion were Treasury bills and bonds respectively. The monthly Treasury bills redemptions were Ksh 137.44 (Chart 3). In aggregate, the exchequer had a surplus of Ksh 3.79 billion during the month.

Chart 3: Government Securities Performance from August 2022 to August 2023 in Ksh Billions



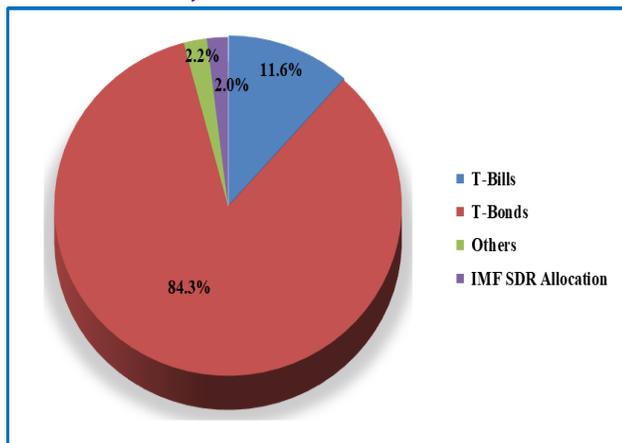
Source: National Treasury

1.8 Domestic Debt by Instruments

As at the end of August 2023, the ratio of bonds to bills was 84:12. The Government overdraft at the Central Bank of Kenya and historical bank advances from commercial accounts for 2.2 percent while IMF SDR Allocation accounts for 2 percent of domestic debt stock during the same period (Chart 4).

⁴ 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 August 2023 (Percentage of Total Domestic Debt)



Source: National Treasury

I.9 Net Domestic Financing

The cumulative net domestic borrowing as at end of August 2023 was Ksh 129.19 billion against an annual target of Ksh 422.75 billion for FY 2023/24.

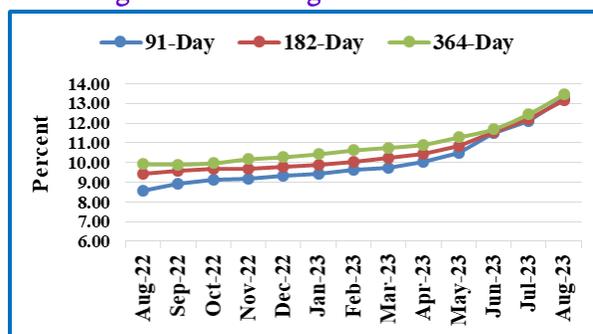
I.10 Cumulative Domestic Interest Payments

As at end of August 2023, the actual cumulative domestic interest payment was Ksh 87.11 billion against a cumulative target of 646.36 billion for FY 2023/24. Interest payments for Treasury bonds and bills in the month of August was Ksh 44.34 billion and Ksh 5.18 billion, respectively. The interest payment on the overdraft was Ksh 0.68 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 13.25 percent, 13.19 percent and 13.45 percent in August 2023 from 12.12 percent, 12.23 percent and 12.46 percent in July 2023, respectively as shown in Chart 5.

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



Source: National Treasury

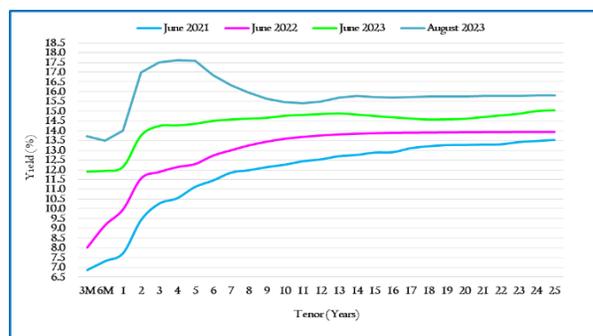
The average interest rates for the 91-day, 182-day and 364-day Treasury bills increased by 113, 96 and 99 basis points, respectively.

I.12 Government Securities Yields

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 6.9 percent at end June 2021 to 13.73 percent as at end August 2023 (a 687 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 August 2023 was 8.4 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	BI	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	BI	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	Sep 08 2006

Source: National Treasury

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

CREDITOR	Stock at the end July 2023	Stock at the end August 2023	CHANGE
BILATERAL			
BELGIUM	26,193.73	26,264.46	70.74
AUSTRIA	1,977.74	1,990.04	12.30
DENMARK	365.24	370.71	5.47
FINLAND	744.28	754.18	9.90
FRANCE	109,623.41	110,965.71	1,342.30
GERMANY	48,659.04	48,774.03	114.99
ITALY	49,443.80	50,101.34	657.54
JAPAN	102,539.10	101,627.53	(911.57)
USA	1,172.82	1,116.03	(56.79)
SPAIN	15,481.10	15,678.58	197.48
Other PARIS CLUB	2,505.81	2,559.34	53.53
Other NON -PARIS CLUB	25,313.14	25,129.09	(184.05)
CHINA	855,230.03	870,795.98	15,565.95
Sub Total	1,239,249.26	1,256,127.03	16,877.77
MULTILATERAL			
ADB/ADF	529,746.97	540,457.28	10,710.30
EEC/EIB	29,573.92	29,967.22	393.29
IDA	1,606,837.59	1,627,316.04	20,478.45
IFAD	32,482.25	32,766.74	284.49
IMF	384,430.65	391,603.23	7,172.58
Others	169,137.65	172,558.39	3,420.74
Sub Total	2,752,209.03	2,794,668.89	42,459.86
COMMERCIAL			
Commercial Bank	355,939.45	345,617.72	(10,321.73)
International Sovereign Bond	1,010,789.37	1,032,381.89	21,592.52
Suppliers Credit	15,155.93	15,391.68	235.75
Sub Total	1,381,884.74	1,393,391.28	11,506.54
Total Central Government	5,373,343.03	5,444,187.20	70,844.17
GUARANTEED			
JAPAN	82,164.08	81,517.99	(646.09)
GERMANY	2,574.21	2,608.44	34.23
Kenya Airways (Commercial Debt)	84,557.00	85,777.39	1,220.39
Sub Total	169,295.29	169,903.82	608.53
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT+ GUARANTEED TOTAL DEBT	5,542,638.32	5,614,091.02	71,452.70

Source: National Treasury

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