

APPENDIX C

GLOSSARY OF SELECTED TERMS

Approval in Principle: This refers to the grant of an initial permit/permission to any financial institution, pending the time it would meet the necessary requirements for operation to qualify it for a formal licence.

Balance of Payments (BOP): These are records of economic transactions between the residents of a country and the rest of the world during a given period of time. The major components of a BOP are the **current account, the capital account and the official settlement balance**. The current account comprises transactions arising from the sale or purchase of goods and services and unrequited transfers, while the capital account is the record of assets and financial transactions. The official settlement account is used to equalise any imbalance that may exist in the current and capital accounts so that all the BOP accounts sum to zero.

Balance of Payments Position: see **Foreign Exchange and Balance of Payments Position**

Bank Credit is a major determinant of the money supply and it embraces the amount of loans and advances given by the CBN as well as deposit money banks to economic agents. This is the banking system credit to the economy which can be broken down into bank credit to government and the private sector.

Capital Expenditure: Payment for non-financial assets used in the production process for more than one year. Loan amortisation (capital repayment) is included.

Cost of Capital is the cost incurred in securing funds or capital for productive purposes. The cost includes interest rate, legal, administrative and information search charges. This means that cost of capital is likely to be greater than or equal to interest rates on loans.

Cost of Funds: This refers to net expenses incurred in raising funds, including a reasonable profit margin. The expenses include the interest on deposits,

reserve requirements and other administrative expenses, as a proportion of total funds borrowed.

Credit Risk: Credit risk arises from potential that an obligor is either unwilling to perform an obligation, or its ability to perform such an obligation is impaired, resulting in loss to the Bank. In addition to direct accounting loss, credit risk should be viewed in the context of other economic exposures which include opportunity costs, transaction costs and expenses associated with non-performing assets over and above the accounting loss.

Debentures are fixed interest-bearing securities. They are usually of two types, debenture with floating charge and debenture with fixed charge. Debenture holders are creditors to the company rather than owners.

Debt Stock/GDP: This measures the level of domestic indebtedness relative to the country's economic activity.

Discount House is a financial institution devoted to trading in government secondary instruments (treasury bills and certificates and other eligible instruments). The discount house submits bids from authorised dealers, including its needs for OMO instruments, to the Central Bank and facilitates the payments and settlement of the transactions.

Distressed Banks: These are banks with problems relating to illiquidity, poor earnings and non-performing assets. The extreme case of distress is referred to as insolvency, which implies that a bank's liabilities are more than its assets.

Dutch Auction System (DAS): This is a method of exchange rate determination, through auction, where the bidders pay according to their bid rates. The ruling rate is arrived at with the last bid rate that clears the market where the authorities elect to operate a single exchange rate.

Equity Price Risk: Equity price risk is the risk to earnings or capital resulting from adverse changes in the value of the equity-related portfolios of a financial institution. The price risk could relate to changes in the overall level of equity prices or price volatility that is determined by firm specific characteristics.

Exchange Rate: This is the price of one currency in terms of another.

External Assets: These are the reserves held by the monetary authorities, as well as the banking and non-bank public, in foreign countries. Thus, external assets comprise the external reserves and the private sector holdings of foreign exchange.

External Reserves: These are portions of foreign exchange receipts saved by the monetary authorities for the purpose of enhancing the creditworthiness of the economy, protecting the international value of the domestic currency, and financing temporary shocks in the balance of payments. Reserves are held in the form of monetary gold, the reserve position at the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), and foreign bank balances.

Federation Account: This is an account opened by the Federal Republic of Nigeria into which all revenues of the Federation are paid for eventual distribution to all tiers of government in Nigeria.

Fiscal Deficit refers to the excess of expenditure over revenue of government. It is usually assessed by its size in relation to the nominal Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The fiscal deficits may be financed in various ways – external borrowing and internal borrowing (banking system and non-bank public). It is inflationary when financed by the banking system, especially the central banks.

Fiscal Operations: This refers to government financial transactions involving the collection, spending and borrowing of government for a given period.

Fixed Deposit Rate: When deposits are for a fixed period of time, say 90 or 180 days, the interest rates paid are called fixed deposit rates. They normally attract higher interest rates; early withdrawals may attract interest penalties.

Foreign Exchange: This is a means of international payments. It includes the currencies of other countries that are freely acceptable in effecting international transactions.

Foreign Exchange and Balance of Payments Position: The foreign exchange position is the difference between foreign exchange receipts and foreign exchange disbursements. If receipts are higher than disbursements, there is a

net inflow or an accretion to reserves. On the other hand, if receipts are lower, there is a net outflow and the reserves would be depleted. The balance of payments position is the difference between the receipts by the residents of one economy from the rest of the world and the payments by these residents to the rest of the world. An excess of receipts over payments shows a balance of payments surplus, while the reverse represents a deficit. When foreign exchange receipts and payments are adjusted for valuation changes in reserves, the net position would be identical to the balance of payments position.

Foreign Exchange Risk: Foreign exchange risk is the current or prospective risk to earnings and capital arising from adverse movements in currency exchange rates. Foreign exchange risk may also arise as a result of exposures of banks to interest rate risk arising from the maturity mismatching of foreign currency positions.

Government Expenditure: Payment or flow of financial resources out from government.

High-powered Money: see **Monetary Base**

Inter-bank Interest Rate: This is the rate that applies to transactions among banks, mostly for overnight and other short-term funds.

Interest Rate is the price of money. It is the opportunity cost of holding money and the return for parting with liquidity.

Interest Rate Risk: Interest rate risk arises when there is a mismatch between positions, which are subject to interest rate adjustments within a specified period. Interest rate risk is usually assessed from two perspectives: the earnings perspective which focuses on the impact of variation in interest rate on accruals or reported earnings, and the economic value perspective which reflects the impact of fluctuations in interest rates on the economic value of a financial institution.

Interest rate risk also includes risks associated with the term structure of interest rates and basis risk. Basis risk is also known as spread risk and it arises when a bank prices its assets and liabilities using different interest rate basis. On the

other hand, risks associated with the term structure of interest rates are also known as the yield curve risk. The impact of shifts in the yield curve on earnings is evaluated using stress tests.

Internal Balance: This refers to a state of convergence between domestic output and absorption or expenditure. When output is identical with expenditure, internal balance is considered to have been achieved and the rate of inflation is expected to be stable. The achievement of the savings-investment identity is also viewed as internal balance. Monetary and fiscal policies and external debt management measures are usually applied to achieve internal balance.

Key Risk Indicator: A key risk indicator is a risk item that has been assessed to be important, given all relevant factors. This indicator is used to monitor exposure to risks and could be quantitative or qualitative in nature. It should be forward-looking in order to serve as an effective risk mitigant.

Liquidity Ratio: This ratio is defined as the ratio of total specified liquid assets to total current liabilities and reflects the liquidity position of a bank.

Liquidity Risk: Liquidity risk is the potential loss to a bank, arising from either its inability to meet its obligations as they fall due or to fund increases in assets without incurring unacceptable costs or losses. Liquidity risk should not be seen in isolation, because financial risks are not mutually exclusive and liquidity risk is often triggered by consequences of other bank risks, such as credit, market and operations risks.

Market Capitalisation is the market value of a company's issued share capital. It is the product of the current quoted price of shares and the number of shares outstanding. The term is also used as a performance indicator of the capital market.

Maximum Lending Rate: This refers to the rate charged by banks for lending to customers with a low credit rating.

Minimum Rediscount Rate: This refers to the amount that is charged by the CBN for lending to banks in the performance of its function of lender of last resort and also as a signal of the desired direction of monetary policy.

Monetary Base (or High-powered Money or Reserve Money) comprises certain liabilities of the CBN and includes currency with the non-bank public and total bank reserves. The main sources of monetary base are the net foreign assets of the CBN, net claims on government, claims on government, claims on deposit money banks, and other assets (net) of the CBN.

Money Supply (or Money Stock) refers to the total value of money in the economy and this consists of currency (notes and coins) and deposits with deposit money banks (DMBs). For purposes of policy, there are two variants of money supply in Nigeria – M1 and M2. M1 is the narrow measure of money supply which includes currency in circulation with the non-bank public and demand deposits (current accounts) at the deposit money banks. M2 is the broad measure of money supply and includes M1 and savings and time deposits at the DMBs. Savings and time deposits are also called quasi-money. M2 measures total liquidity in the economy. Excess liquidity is the amount of liquidity over and above the optimum level of liquidity, determined by the levels of output and prices.

Net Foreign Assets (NFA) constitute the foreign exchange holdings of the CBN and the deposit money banks, after netting out the claims of foreigners. Changes in NFA should reflect developments in the balance of payments. A deficit in the balance of payments would lead to a decrease in foreign asset holdings and ultimately the money stock. A surplus in the balance of payments produces the opposite effect.

New Issues are securities raised in the primary market for the first time.

Nominal Exchange Rate: The nominal exchange rate is the price of one currency relative to another. The real exchange rate is the nominal exchange rate deflated by changes in relative prices.

Nominal Interest Rate: This is the actual rental value paid for the use of money or credit. It includes the effects of inflation and uncertainty.

Offer for Sale is an offer by shareholders to sell existing shares to the public. The sale is effected usually through stockbrokers and does not affect the capital base of a company.

Offer for Subscription is an invitation by a company to the public to subscribe to new issues. This increases the capital base of the company.

Open Market Operations involve the discretionary power of the CBN to purchase or sell securities in the financial markets in order to influence the volume of liquidity and levels of interest rates which ultimately would affect money supply. When the CBN sells financial instruments, the liquidity (excess reserves) of the banking system reduces. This restricts the capacity of banks to extend credit or induce monetary expansion. On the other hand, when the CBN purchases such instruments, it injects money into the system and banks' ability to expand credit is enhanced.

Operational Risk: Operational risk is the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems, or from external events. Operational risk is present in virtually all banking transactions and activities.

Other Assets (net) is the other assets of CBN, deposit money banks less (their) other liabilities.

Preference Shares are shares of companies on which dividends must be paid before any other shares.

Prime Lending Rate: This is the interest rate applied to loans made to customers with the highest rating. For each bank, this rate also represents the minimum lending rate.

Prudential Guidelines: These are guidelines and practices which all licensed banks are required to adhere to in reviewing and reporting their performance, particularly in the areas of credit portfolio classification and disclosure; the provision for non-performing facilities and interest accrual; the classification of other assets; and off-balance sheet engagements.

Real Exchange Rate: This is the nominal exchange rate deflated by change in relative prices. See also **Nominal Exchange Rate**

Real Interest Rate: This is the nominal interest rate adjusted for expected inflation. In order to encourage savings, real interest rate is expected to be positive.

Recurrent Expenditure: Expenditure on goods and services (other than capital assets) used in the process of production within one year. Interest on loans is included.

Required Reserves are a fraction of commercial and merchant banks' money held for the purpose of backing up their deposit operations and partly to control the level of liquidity in the economy. They are made up of cash reserves and liquid assets and specified in the form of ratios. The cash reserves ratio is the percentage of deposit money banks' cash deposits with the CBN in relation to their total demand, savings and time deposits. The liquidity ratio is the percentage of banks' liquid assets to their total deposits liabilities.

Reserve Money: see **Monetary Base**

Reserve Requirement refers to the proportion of total deposit liabilities which the deposit money banks are expected to keep as cash in vaults and deposits with the CBN. The CBN can control the money stock by varying the requirement as desirable. Usually, banks keep reserves over and above the legal requirement for safety. The cash ratio requires the deposit banks to keep a certain proportion of their total deposit liabilities in cash balances with the CBN, while the liquidity ratio stipulates the proportion of total deposits to be kept in specified liquid assets, mainly to safeguard the ability of banks to meet depositors' cash withdrawals and ensure confidence in the banking system. The CBN also has powers to call for special deposits from banks for the purpose of controlling liquidity.

Rights Issues are shares offered to companies' existing shareholders in proportion to the number of shares held and usually at below the market price to make the offer attractive.

Savings Deposit Rate: The savings deposit rate is the amount paid by banks for funds withdrawable after seven days' notice. This restriction is, however, seldomly applied.

Total Reserves: This is the sum of required reserves and excess reserves.

Vault Cash: Deposit money banks keep “petty cash” in their vaults for emergency transactions before they can access their accounts with the CBN. The amount so kept is called vault cash.

Ways and Means Advances constitute a portion of credit by the CBN to government. These are temporary loans to government to bridge shortfalls in revenue. Statutorily, the CBN must not give more than 12.5 per cent of government's current revenue.

Yield Curve: Shows the relationship between the rate of interest and the time to maturity of different financial assets.