BANK OF GHANA

Monetary Policy Summary

MARCH 2017

PREFACE

The Bank of Ghana's Monetary Policy Summary provides a brief overview of macroeconomic developments and monetary policy considerations, released after each Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting in January, March, July and November. After meetings in May and September, a full Monetary Policy Report is published. The aim of issuing these monetary policy publications is to provide the public with background materials which served as inputs for the policy decision making process and economic assessments at each MPC session. Through the publication of these documents, Bank of Ghana aims to promote accountability of its decision making and build understanding of the monetary policy formulation process among stakeholders.

Monetary Policy in Ghana

The primary objective of the Bank of Ghana is to pursue sound monetary policies aimed at price stability and creating an enabling environment for sustainable economic growth. Price stability in this context is defined as a medium-term inflation target of 8 percent with a symmetric band of ±2 per cent at which the economy is expected to grow at full potential without excessive inflation pressures. Other tasks for the Bank of Ghana include promoting and maintaining a sound financial sector and payment systems through effective regulation and supervision. This is important for intermediation since risks associated with financial markets are taken into account in monetary policy formulation.

Monetary Policy Strategy

To achieve the objective of price stability, Bank of Ghana was granted operational independence to employ whichever policy tools were deemed appropriate to stabilise inflation around the medium-term target. The Bank of Ghana's framework for conducting monetary policy is Inflation Targeting (IT), in which the central bank uses the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) as the primary policy tool to set the monetary policy stance and anchor inflation expectations in the economy.

The MPC Process

The MPC is a statutorily constituted body by the Bank of Ghana Act to formulate monetary policy. The MPC consists of seven members – five from the Bank of Ghana (including the Governor who acts as the Chairman) and two external members appointed by the Board of the Bank of Ghana. The MPC meets once in every two months to assess economic conditions and risks to the inflation outlook, after which a policy decision is made on positioning the MPR. Each MPR decision provides a signal of tightening (increase), loosening (decrease) or maintaining (no change) the monetary policy stance. The MPC meeting dates are determined well in advance at the beginning of each year. The policy decision is arrived at by consensus with each member stating reasons underlying a preferred rate decision. An MPC policy statement is published via a press release, and a press conference is held, after each MPC meeting to communicate and explain the Committee's decisions to the financial markets and the general public.

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Global growth expected to pick up in 2017

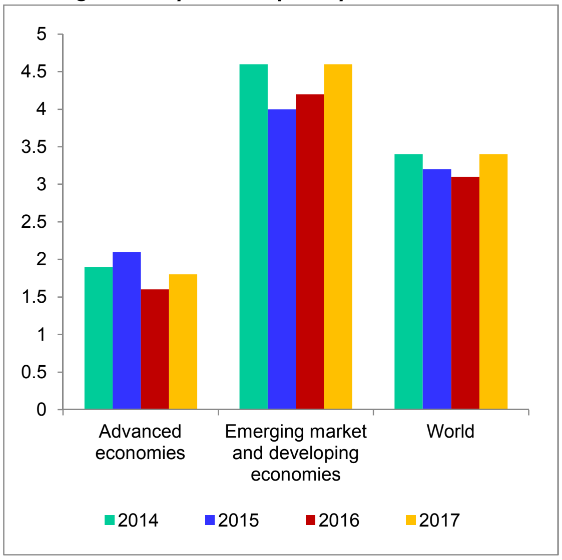
The global recovery process is expected to continue in 2017. For advanced countries, growth is likely to receive some boost from anticipated tax cuts and increased infrastructure spending in the United States (US), continued monetary accommodation in the Euro area, and gradual recovery in emerging market and developing economies. The latest IMF forecasts also indicate that economic activity would pick up pace in emerging and developing economies driven mainly by the recovery in commodity prices, end of recession in the largest emerging economies such as Russia and Brazil, and some rebound in global trade.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, growth was constrained during 2016 largely on account of mounting domestic imbalances in the two largest economies of Nigeria and South Africa, and volatile commodity prices. Consequently, the recent recovery in some commodity prices is expected to instigate some growth spurts across the major countries in Sub-Saharan Africa during 2017. However, continued macro imbalances in Nigeria and South Africa remains a major risk to overall growth across the regional bloc.

Global financial markets have also recovered somewhat, despite lingering concerns about the strength of the recoveries in the Euro Area and Japan. Stocks in the U.S have rebounded due to the stronger than expected growth in the third quarter of 2016 and prospects of stronger growth in 2017. The US raised the Fed fund rates from 0.5 to 0.75 per cent, citing strong labour market conditions, strong private demand, moderate expansion of economic activity and headline inflation moving closer to the 2 per cent target.

Long-term nominal and real interest rates have risen substantially in the US since November 2016, reflecting rising long-term inflation expectations and prospects of faster normalization of US monetary policy. The rise in US yields may result in tighter external financing conditions for emerging markets and developing economies. On the whole, risks to the global economic outlook appear to be broadly balanced. But, upside risks such as a stronger US dollar and rising global bond yields, on the back of expected continued hikes in the Fed funds rate, could impact adversely on Ghana's balance of payments, fiscal operations and the inflation outlook.

Global growth expected to pick up in 2017

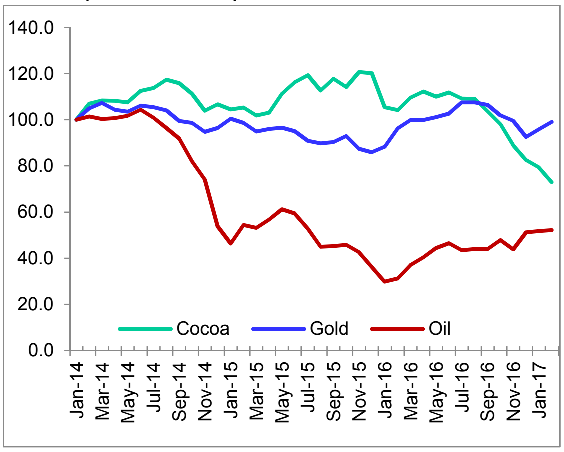


Source: IMF World Economic Outlook, January 2017

Continued recovery in some commodity prices

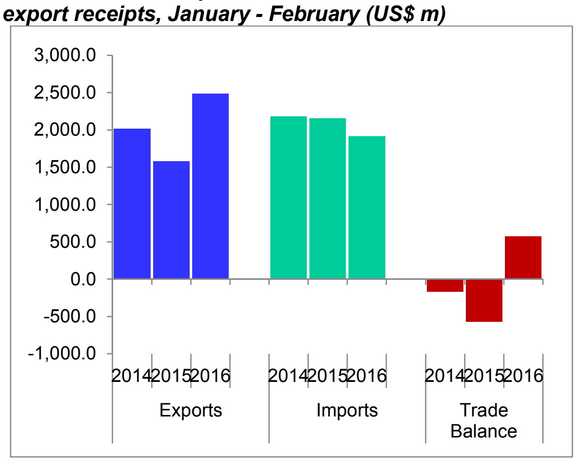
Prices of the country's three key export commodities turned out mixed trends with gold and crude oil increasing marginally, while cocoa trended downwards. On average, gold prices gained 7.2 per cent in the year to February 2017. Brent crude oil prices also rose marginally by 1.7 per cent over the same period. On year-on-year basis, crude oil prices have bounced back strongly, moving up by 67.4 per cent following the agreed deal by OPEC to cut production levels. However, cocoa prices have declined on the futures market underscored by projected excess supply. Consequently, cocoa prices have declined by 11.7 per cent in the year to February 2017. These price developments, especially in gold and oil, coupled with projected increased production volumes, should help improve the trade account in the short-to-medium term.

Gold and crude oil prices up, while cocoa prices declined (Jan. 2014=100)



Uncertainties still prevail in the commodities market, although there are indications that prices will broadly remain above 2016 levels. In the outlook, cocoa prices are likely to remain subdued owing to excess supply amid stagnated demand in the US and across Europe. Average cocoa prices are projected to trade at US$1,986 per tonne by the end of the second quarter of 2017. The continued pace of oil price recovery depends largely on global demand growth and a quick turnaround in US shale production. Oil prices are expected to average between US$55.5 per barrel and US$57.32 per barrel in the second quarter of 2017. The outlook for gold prices has however weakened marginally due to an improved global economic outlook, rising inflation, higher interest rate expectations, political uncertainties and weak demand from India. Gold prices are forecast to average US$1,260 per fine ounce in the second quarter of 2017.

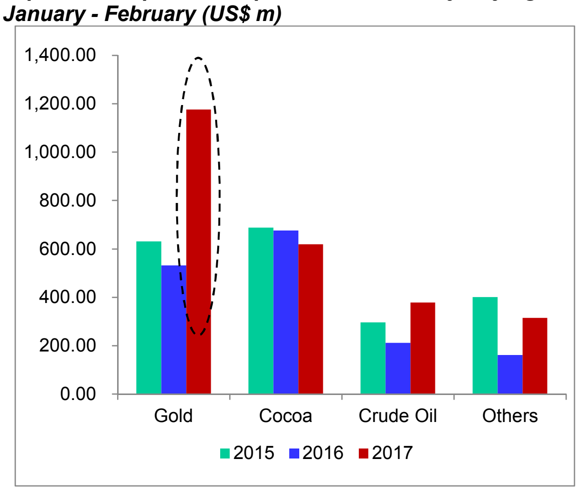
Trade account improves on the back of increased export receipts, January - February (US$ m)



Trade account improves

Provisional data on the trade account during the first two months of 2017 pointed to a surplus of US$573.0 million compared to a deficit of US$574.1 million same period in 2016. This outturn was attributed to higher exports receipts, mainly on account of relatively strong performance of gold export receipts and declining imports.

Improved export receipts driven mainly by gold, January - February (US$ m)



The level of gross foreign assets was US$6,455.3 million which is equivalent to 3.8 months of import cover, by the end of February 2017. This compares favourably with US$4,674.7 million, equivalent to 3.1 months of import cover in the same period of 2016.

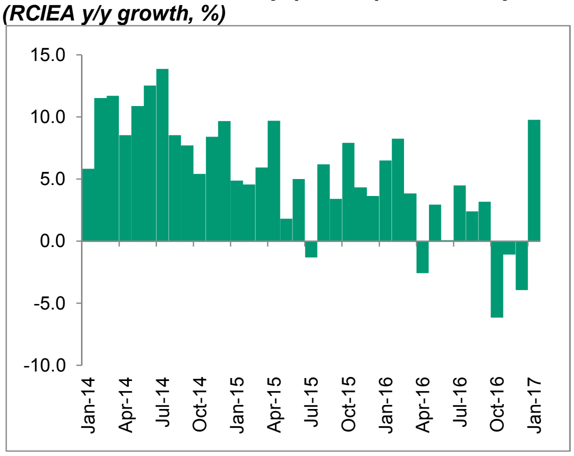
The near term upside risks to the trade account includes the US Fed fund rate hikes which could adversely impact gold prices, especially since the performance of the first two months hinged strongly on higher gold export receipts.

The balance of payments outlook remains positive based on expected increased volumes of crude oil and gas production at the TEN oil fields and the Sankofa Fields to provide a further boost for export receipts. However, upside risks such as Fed fund rate hikes and strengthening of the US dollar could lead to tighter external financing conditions with adverse implications for the balance of payments, exchange rate and the inflation outlook.

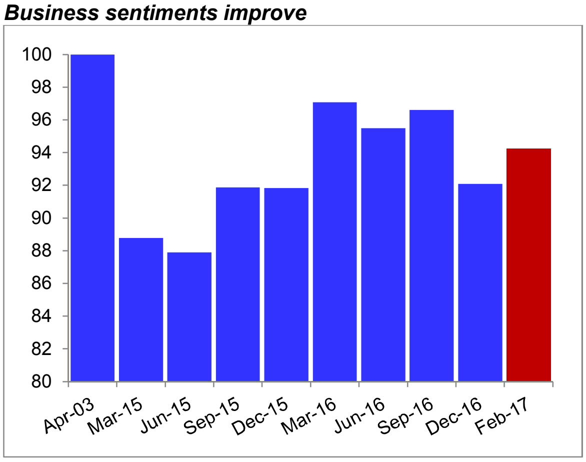
Domestic economic activity picks up

The Bank's updated Composite Index of Economic Activity (CIEA) showed some pickup in the pace of economic activity in January 2017, driven by exports, port activities, industrial consumption of electricity and credit to the private sector. In addition, the consumer and business confidence surveys conducted in February reflected optimism about economic and industry prospects. The Consumer Confidence Index moved up to 106.8 in February 2017 from 105.7 in December 2016 based on expected changes in household finances and favourable employment prospects. Similarly, the Business Confidence Index improved to 94.2 in February 2017 from 92.1 in December 2016 on the back of positive sentiments on the economy and expected rebound in industry growth. The major risks to the growth outlook include exchange rate volatility, uncertainty about commodity price movements, and increased cost of utilities.

Pace of economic activity picks up in January 2017 (RCIEA y/y growth, %)



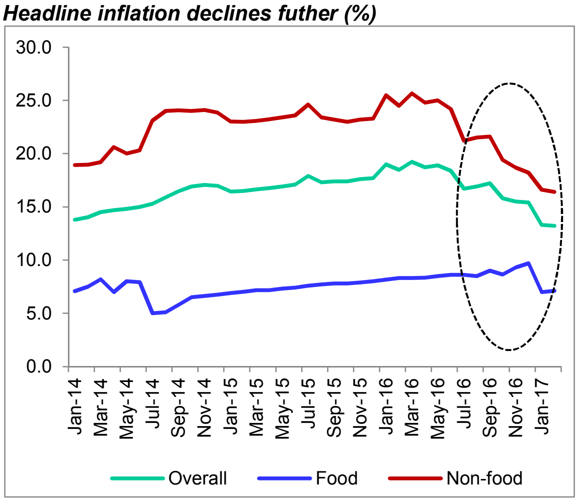
Business sentiments improve



Inflation declines for fifth consecutive month

Headline inflation declined for the fifth consecutive month in February in line with expectations. Annual inflation declined sharply from 15.4 per cent in December 2016 to 13.3 per cent in January 2017, and further down to 13.2 per cent in February 2017. The decline was largely due to continued tightness in the monetary policy stance, favourable base effects and declining food prices.

Headline inflation declines futher (%)



The downward trend in inflation was broad based and influenced by both food and non-food inflation. Food inflation declined to 7.0 per cent in January 2017 (from 9.7% in Dec. 2016) but increased slightly to 7.1 per cent in February. The decline in food inflation was attributed to lower domestic food prices following increased crop production during the second half of 2016. Also, non-food inflation fell to 16.6 per cent in January 2017 (from 18.2% in Dec. 2016) and further down to 16.4 per cent in February, supported by the continued policy tightness and favourable base effects. In terms of contributions, the slowdown in the overall consumer price index broadly reflected in food & beverages, utilities, transport, education, as well as health, while the other CPI components exerted some upward pressures on inflation.

Core inflation, which excludes energy and utility prices, similarly eased over the period but at a slower pace. Core inflation declined to 14.0 per cent in February 2017 from 14.5 per cent January 2017 (14.6% in Dec. 2016), indicating subdued underlying inflation pressures. Also, inflation expectations across all sectors, that is, consumers, businesses and financial sector broadly declined, reinforcing dampening of underlying inflation pressures. The overall inflation expectation index moved from 116.9 in December 2016 to 108.7 in February 2017.

2017 budget signals return to fiscal consolidation

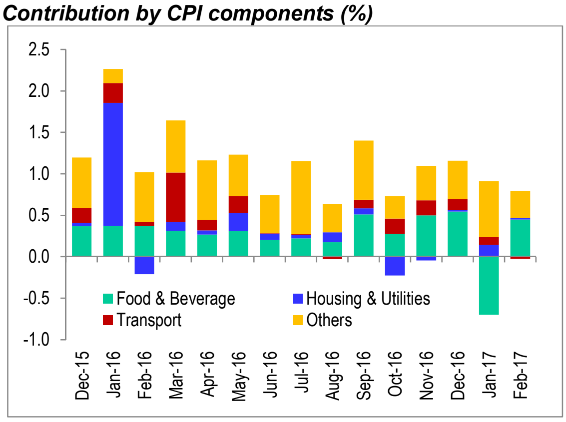
Provisional fiscal data shows that the overall budget deficit (on cash basis) was 7.8 per cent of GDP in 2016, higher than the target of 5.0 per cent of GDP. The deficit was financed mostly from domestic sources, including a drawdown on government deposits with the Bank of Ghana.

The fiscal slippage was attributed to revenue shortfalls from low international oil prices, weak tax revenue mobilization and lower donor support, as well as expenditure overruns from higher spending on the goods and services and capital expenditures.

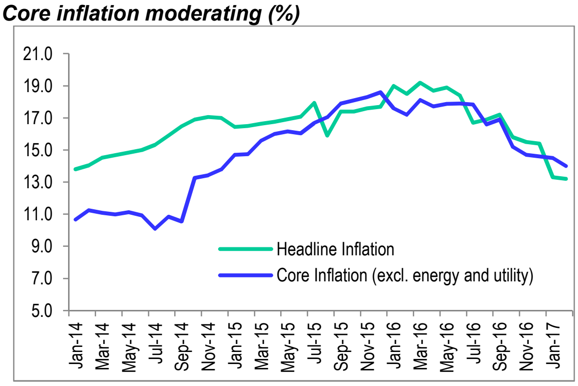
In particular, revenue and grants amounted to GH¢33.7 billion (20.0% of GDP) compared with a target of GH¢37.9 billion (22.7% of GDP); while total expenditures and arrears clearance stood at GH¢51.1 billion (30.3% of GDP) relative to the target of GH¢44.0 billion (26.4% of GDP).

Available data indicates that total public debt ended 2016 at GH¢122.3 billion (72.5% of GDP), compared with GH¢100.2 billion (72.2% of GDP) at the end of 2015. Of the total public debt, the share of domestic debt rose to 44 per cent in 2016, compared with some 40 per cent share in 2015. The government's strategy to increase the share of domestic debt in the total debt is positive for debt sustainability. There is

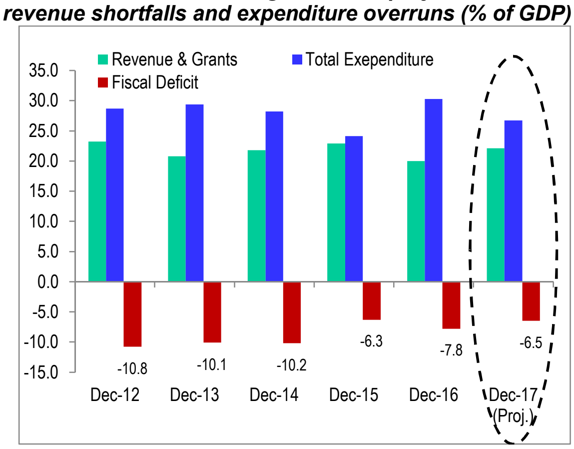
Contribution by CPI components (%)



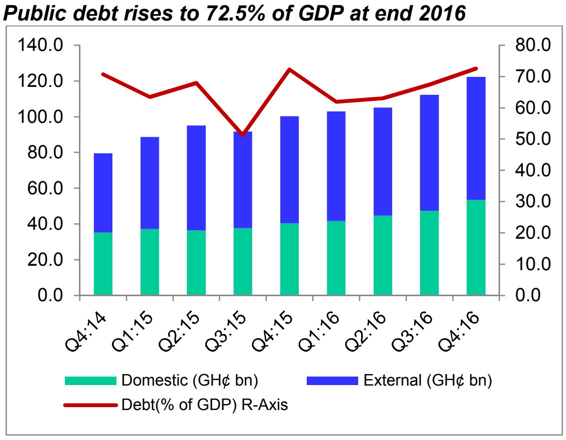
Core inflation moderating (%)



Fiscal deficit outturn higher than projected due to revenue shortfalls and expenditure overruns (% of GDP)



Public debt rises to 72.5% of GDP at end 2016

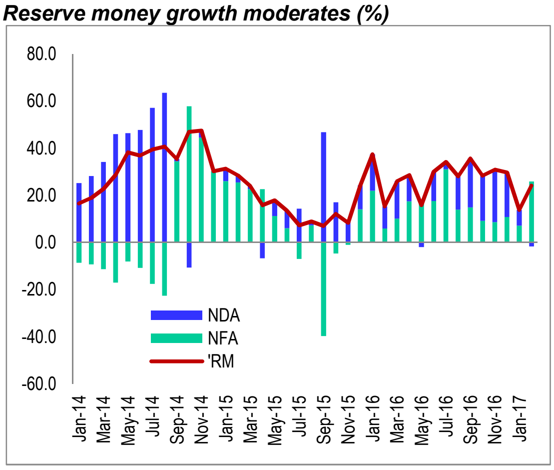


however the need to monitor the pace of growth in domestic debt in order not to crowd out the private sector from the loanable funds market.

Growth in reserve money moderates

Growth in Reserve Money eased from 29.6 per cent in December 2016 to 24.1 per cent in February 2017 driven largely by BOG Net Domestic Assets (NDA) and some accumulation of Net Foreign Assets (NFA) by BOG over the period. The relative contribution of NDA to reserve money growth at the end of February 2017 was -1.7 per cent from 10.7 per cent in December 2016.

Reserve money growth moderates (%)

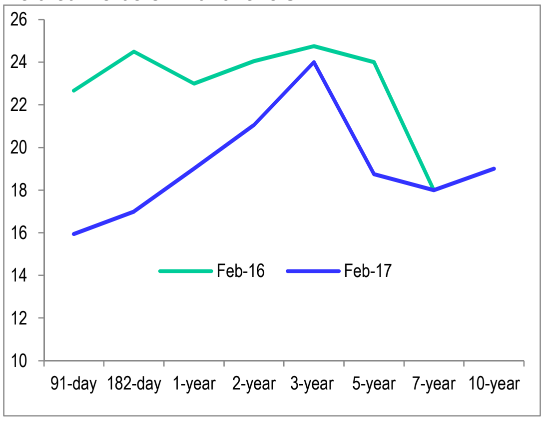


Annual growth in Broad Money (M2+) supply rose from 19.7 per cent in December 2016 to 27.0 per cent in January 2017, supported mainly by Net Domestic Assets of the banking system. The rise in M2+ was reflected in demand deposits, saving and time deposits, and foreign currency deposits.

Private sector credit expands amid lower money market rates

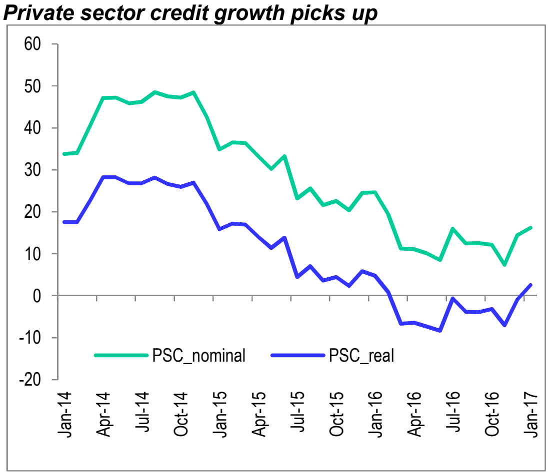
Interest rates of money market instruments continued to decline as government public sector borrowing requirements declined further. The yield on 91- and 182-day Treasury bills declined to 15.94 and 16.99 per cent in February 2017 from 22.67 and 24.5 per cent respectively, a year before.

Yield curve below 2016 levels



Deposit money bank's credit to the private sector picked up in the first two months of 2017, consistent with easing credit conditions as indicated by the latest financial sector survey. On year-on-year basis, private sector credit expanded by 16.2 per cent in January 2017, from 14.4 per cent in December 2016.

Private sector credit growth picks up



Mixed performance of key financial sector indicators

The performance of the banking sector reflected strong asset growth, on the back of increased foreign assets and investments, as well as a pickup in credit extension. The industry's Capital Adequacy Ratio also posted 37-months high of 18.5 per cent in February 2017 against 17.8 per cent in December 2016, on the back of strong growth in the adjusted capital.

Asset quality continued to improve as non-performing loans ratio declined to 17.7 per cent in February 2017 from 18.0 per cent in January 2017 (17.3% in December 2016). The increase in the NPL ratio between December 2016 and January 2017 was partly explained by outcome of the Asset Quality Review (AQR) and downgrading of loans by some banks.

The industry's annualized profitability indicators improved in the year. Return on Assets declined marginally from 4.1 per cent in December 2016 to 4.0 per cent in February 2017. Similarly, Return on Equity fell to 19.6 per cent in February 2017, from 24.3 per cent in January (18% in December 2016), on account of decline in banks' net profit after tax over the first two months of 2017. The industry's other liquidity indicators however, broadly improved over the period.

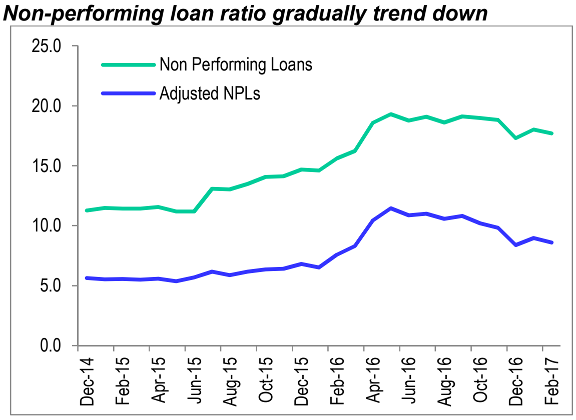
The outlook for the banking sector remains positive based on finalisation of the restructuring arrangements for Bulk Distributing Companies' debt, continued repayments of the restructured Volta River Authority and Tema Oil Refinery debts, and conclusion of the minimum capital requirements for banks. Plans to introduce the Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP) under the Basel II framework in July 2017 would further enhance the capital position of the industry and the sector's overall performance.

Currency depreciation slows

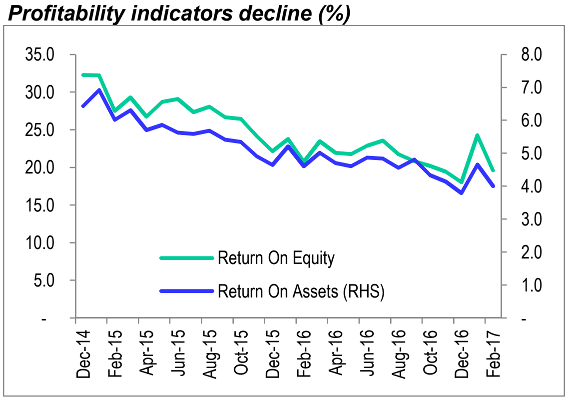
The foreign exchange market witnessed increased demand pressures at the beginning of 2017 which was triggered by seasonal demand factors (import demand, dividend payments etc.) and amplified by speculators betting on a further slide in the currency. However, these pressures significantly eased in March 2017 on the back of improved foreign exchange flows to the market and renewed confidence in the economy.

Cumulatively, the cedi depreciated by 2.7 per cent against the US dollar on year to date basis in March 2017, compared with a depreciation of 0.9 per cent in the same period of 2016. The nominal effective exchange rate remained broadly stable, while the Real Trade Weighted Index (RTWI) indicates some appreciation in the real effective exchange rate. Building on the recent gains in the cedi may require continued policy tightness, scaling up foreign exchange market support and continued mop up of excess liquidity to dampen foreign exchange demand pressures.

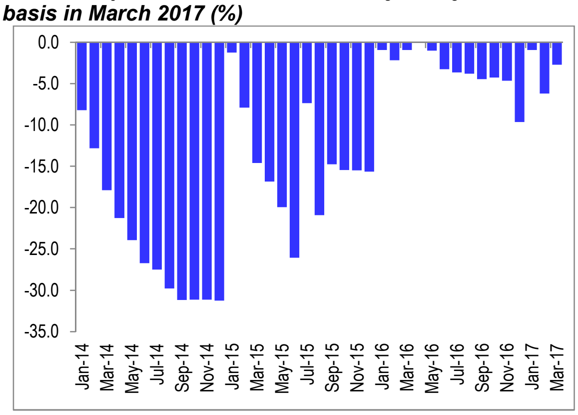
Non-performing loan ratio gradually trend down



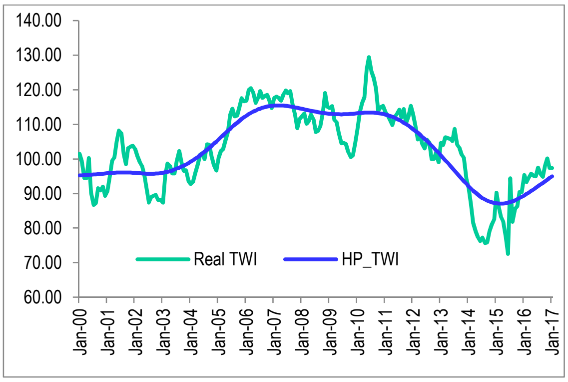
Profitability indicators decline (%)



Slower depreciation in the currency on year-to-date basis in March 2017 (%)



Marginal appreciation in the real effective exchange rate



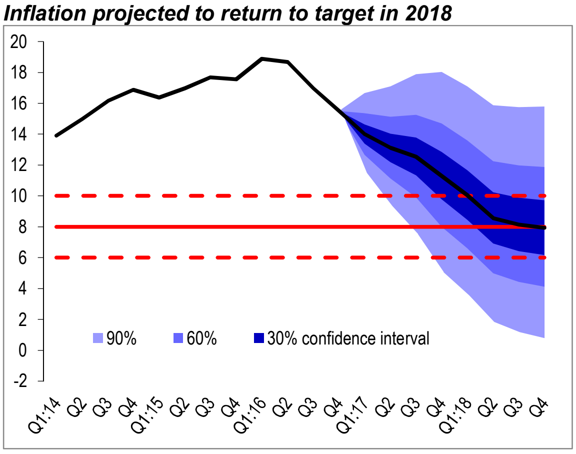
Global policy uncertainties may pose risks to domestic economy

The global economy is projected to pick up moderately in 2017 driven largely by the anticipated fiscal stimulus in the US as well as recovery in the Eurozone and emerging market economies. These projections may prompt a faster pace of monetary policy normalisation and in turn, further tightening of global financing conditions. In addition, there are considerable uncertainties in the international commodities market which may pose upside risks to Ghana's balance of payments, fiscal operations and the inflation outlook.

Inflation forecast horizon unchanged

Headline inflation continued to decline while underlying inflation pressures have eased considerably over the period. At the March 2017 MPC meeting, the revised inflation forecast remained broadly unchanged from the January 2017 forecast. The March forecast incorporated new information and revised assumptions that were not available during the January forecast round. This included new inflation numbers for January and February, a projected fiscal deficit of 6.5 per cent of GDP and projected growth of 6.5 per cent for 2017, a broadly stable exchange rate and increased risk premium following the hike in US Fed fund rates. These revised assumptions notwithstanding, the forecast horizon did not change in March and inflation is still expected to decline gradually to the medium-term target of 8±2 per cent in 2018.

Inflation projected to return to target in 2018



Risks to the inflation outlook broadly subdued

The risks to inflation remain mostly subdued as most macroeconomic indicators point in the right direction. However, some upside risks to the inflation outlook could emerge from tight financing conditions, uncertainty in the commodities market, and unanticipated increases in utility tariffs, petroleum prices and transport costs.

On downside risks, the downward trend in core inflation and inflation expectations are supportive of the disinflation process. The observed stability in foreign exchange market is also expected to dampen inflation expectations further and ease non-food inflation. To add to these, another favourable base drift effect is anticipated in March 2017, following the significant upward adjustment in the transport fares same period last year. Finally, the forecasts point to a negative output gap as growth is likely to remain below potential levels in 2017, suggesting subdued aggregate demand pressures, which is positive for the inflation outlook.

Monetary policy stance eases

In conclusion, the Monetary Policy Committee noted that underlying inflation pressures have eased considerably, while inflation is projected to trend towards the medium term target over the forecast horizon. However, there are indications that growth would remain below potential, which alongside an improved inflation outlook provides some scope for monetary policy easing. In addition, recent developments in inflation imply an implicit monetary policy tightening, in real terms. Consequently, the Monetary Policy Rate was reduced by 200 basis points to 23.5 per cent. The Committee will however, continue to monitor developments and take the appropriate action necessary to attaining the medium term inflation target of 8±2 per cent.

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ANNEXES

	Headline Inflation (%)			Monthly Changes in CPI (%)		
	Combined	Food	Non-food	Combined	Food	Non-food
Dec-13	**13.5**	**7.2**	**18.1**	**1.0**	**0.6**	**1.3**
Dec-14	**17.0**	**6.8**	**23.9**	**1.0**	**0.7**	**1.1**
Dec-15	**17.7**	**8.0**	**23.3**	**1.1**	**0.8**	**1.2**
2016						
Jan	19.0	8.2	25.5	4.6	5.8	4.0
Feb	**18.5**	**8.3**	**24.5**	**0.8**	**0.6**	**0.8**
Mar	19.2	8.3	25.7	1.7	0.7	1.2
Apr	18.7	8.4	24.8	1.4	1.5	1.3
May	18.9	8.5	25.0	1.1	1.2	1.1
Jun	18.4	8.6	24.2	1.3	1.5	1.2
Jul	16.7	8.6	21.2	0.9	-0.8	1.7
Aug	16.9	8.5	21.5	-0.6	-1.4	-0.3
Sep	17.2	9.0	21.6	0.2	-2.4	1.4
Oct	15.8	8.7	19.4	1.4	-0.2	2.2
Nov	15.5	9.3	18.7	0.8	1.6	0.5
Dec	15.4	9.7	18.2	0.9	1.2	0.8
2017						
Jan	13.3	7	16.6	2.8	3.2	2.5
Feb	**13.2**	**7.1**	**16.4**	**0.6**	**0.8**	**0.6**

Source: Ghana Statistical Service

Measures of Core Inflation	Weight	2016												2017	
	%	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Headline Inflation	100.0	19.0	18.5	19.2	18.7	18.9	18.4	16.7	16.9	17.2	15.8	15.5	15.4	13.3	13.2
Core 1: Inflation excl Energy and Utility	94.9	17.6	17.2	18.1	17.7	17.9	17.9	17.8	16.6	16.9	15.2	14.7	14.6	14.5	14.0
Core 2: Inflation excl Energy and Utility and Volatile Food Items	77.3	19.1	18.7	19.7	19.2	19.3	19.3	19.2	17.8	18.4	16.5	15.4	15.1	15.3	14.8
Core 3: Inflation excl Energy and Utility Volatile Food Items & Transportation	73.1	17.5	17.2	17.1	16.7	16.8	16.7	17.9	16.6	16.9	14.9	14.3	14.1	14.1	13.7
Core 4: Inflation excl All Food Items, Energy & Utility	51.0	24.2	23.4	24.9	24.1	24.3	24.3	24.0	21.9	21.9	19.0	17.9	17.4	19.0	18.2

CPI Components (%)											
		2015				2016				2017	
	Weghts (%)	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jan	Feb
Overall	**100.0**	**16.6**	**17.1**	**17.4**	**17.7**	**19.2**	**18.4**	**17.2**	**15.4**	**13.3**	**13.2**
Food and Beverages	**43.9**	**7.2**	**7.4**	**7.8**	**8.0**	**8.3**	**8.6**	**9.0**	**9.7**	**7.0**	**7.1**
Non-food	**56.1**	**23.1**	**23.6**	**23.2**	**23.3**	**25.7**	**24.2**	**21.6**	**18.2**	**16.6**	**16.4**
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco	1.7	20.1	20.1	20.8	19.2	15.3	15.1	15.7	13.5	13.7	13.9
Clothing and footwear	9.0	22.4	24.3	24.9	24.1	21.0	22.6	23.2	16.4	18.0	17.8
Housing, Water, Elect, Gas & Fuels	8.6	26.2	24.8	23.6	24.3	39.6	32.8	28.0	20.2	4.4	7.1
Furnish, H/H Equipt. Etc	4.7	20.9	23.3	23.4	25.8	22.9	21.4	23.0	18.8	22.1	22.5
Health	2.4	18.1	16.8	15.7	14.7	13.7	13.9	15.4	18.5	18.2	17.1
Transport	7.3	25.8	25.5	23.8	27.0	40.0	40.3	27.3	27.2	24.6	23.3
Communications	2.7	13.8	12.0	15.4	14.0	13.6	12.5	11.3	10.8	12.6	10.8
Recreation & Culture	2.6	23.1	23.5	27.0	26.9	26.7	27.4	27.6	20.3	24.4	22.8
Education	3.9	22.9	24.6	29.6	26.8	27.7	33.3	32.5	23.4	25.1	19.6
Hotels, Cafes & Restaurants	6.1	18.4	19.8	18.0	18.9	15.9	14.9	16.1	13.7	13.3	13.9
Miscellaneous goods & services	7.1	16.3	19.2	23.0	21.7	18.3	15.5	13.1	14.7	15.9	15.3

BILATERAL MOVEMENT OF THE CEDI AGAINST CORE CURRENCIES									
				Year-to-date Changes (%)			Year-on-Year Changes (%)		
	GH¢/$	GH¢/£	GH¢/€	GH¢/$	GH¢/£	GH¢/€	GH¢/$	GH¢/£	GH¢/€
				2015					
Jan-15	3.2400	4.9000	3.6700	-1.2	1.6	6.3	-25.9	-20.0	-11.4
Feb-15	3.4700	5.3600	3.9000	-6.6	-8.6	-5.9	-27.4	-21.3	-11.0
Mar-15	3.7500	5.5500	4.0600	-7.5	-3.4	-3.9	-28.5	-19.8	-10.1
Apr-15	3.8500	5.9500	4.2900	-2.6	-6.7	-5.4	-27.5	-20.5	-10.3
May-15	3.9996	6.1000	4.3600	-3.7	-2.5	-1.6	-27.7	-20.7	-9.6
Jun-15	3.4648	6.8208	4.8400	15.4	-10.6	-9.9	-13.4	-25.1	-15.5
Jul-15	3.4500	5.3818	3.5700	0.4	26.7	35.6	-12.2	-4.7	13.7
Aug-15	4.0500	6.2173	4.5400	-14.8	-13.4	-21.4	-22.7	-16.5	-9.0
Sep-15	3.7545	5.6956	4.2257	7.9	9.2	7.4	-14.8	-8.9	-3.9
Oct-15	3.7854	5.7858	4.1526	-0.8	-1.6	1.8	-15.5	-11.5	-3.0
Nov-15	3.7861	5.7009	4.0074	0.0	1.5	3.6	-15.5	-11.8	-0.4
Dec-15	3.7950	5.6265	4.1514	-0.2	1.3	-3.5	-15.7	-11.5	-6.1
Cum. Changes (%)				**-15.7**	**-11.5**	**-6.1**			
				2016					
Jan-16	3.8311	5.4945	4.1825	-0.9	2.4	-0.7	-1.0	2.4	-0.7
Feb-16	3.8787	5.4068	4.2525	-1.2	1.6	-1.6	-2.2	4.1	-2.4
Mar-16	3.8304	5.5252	4.3456	1.3	-2.1	-2.1	-0.9	1.8	-4.5
Apr-16	3.7951	5.5361	4.2986	0.9	-0.2	1.1	0.0	1.6	-3.4
May-16	3.8337	5.6097	4.2700	-1.0	-1.3	0.7	-1.0	0.3	-2.8
Jun-16	3.9230	5.3052	4.3623	-2.3	5.7	-2.1	-3.3	6.1	-4.8
Jul-16	3.9469	5.1673	4.3756	-0.6	2.7	-0.3	-3.9	8.9	-5.1
Aug-16	3.9445	5.1612	4.3968	0.1	0.1	-0.5	-3.8	9.0	-5.6
Sep-16	3.9709	5.1576	4.4653	-0.7	0.1	-1.5	-4.4	9.1	-7.0
Oct-16	3.9643	4.8184	4.3345	0.2	7.0	3.0	-4.3	16.8	-4.2
Nov-16	3.9805	4.9754	4.2196	-0.4	-3.2	2.7	-4.7	13.1	-1.6
Dec-16	4.2002	5.1154	4.3813	-5.2	-2.7	-3.7	-9.6	10.0	-5.2
Cum. Changes (%)				**-9.6**	**10.0**	**-5.2**			
				2017					
Jan-17	4.2404	5.2861	4.5497	-0.9	-3.2	-3.7	-9.7	3.9	-8.1
Feb-17	4.4786	5.5745	4.7530	-11.1	-10.7	-11.2	-13.4	-3.0	-10.5
Mar-17	4.3173	5.3964	4.6164	-2.7	-5.2	-5.1	-11.3	2.4	-5.9

Selected Economic and Financial Indicators	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Jul-16	Aug-16	Sep-16	Oct-16	Nov-16	Dec-16	Jan-17	Feb-17
(Annual percentage change; unless otherwise indicated)															
National Income and Prices															
Real GDP	4.2	n.a	n.a	4.2	n.a	n.a	2.3	n.a	n.a	4.0	na	na	3.6	na	na
Real GDP_non-oil	4.1	n.a	n.a	6.7	n.a	n.a	6.2	n.a	n.a	4.6	na	na	4.6	na	na
Consumer price index (end of period)															
Overall	17.7	19	18.5	19.2	18.7	18.9	18.4	16.7	16.9	17.2	15.8	15.5	15.4	13.3	13.2
Food	8.0	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.5	9.0	8.7	9.3	9.7	7	7.1
Non-food	23.3	25.5	24.5	25.7	24.8	25.0	24.2	21.2	21.5	21.6	19.4	18.7	18.2	16.6	16.4
Core Inflation(excl Energy and Utility)															
Exchange rate ($/¢): (end of period)	3.975	3.8311	3.8787	3.8304	3.7951	3.8337	3.9230	3.9469	3.9445	3.9709	3.9643	3.9805	4.2002	4.2404	4.4786
Exchange rate depreciation (M/M)	-0.2	3.8	-1.2	1.1	0.9	-1.0	-2.3	-0.4	0.1	-0.7	0.2	-0.4	-4.8	-0.9	-5.3
Exchange rate depreciation (YTD, %)	-15.7	-1.0	2.5	-0.9	0.0	-1.0	-3.3	-3.7	-3.8	-4.4	-4.3	-4.7	-9.6	-0.9	-6.2
Money and credit															
Broad money supply (M2+)	26.1	28.7	23.0	18.1	16.1	16.7	12.0	25.9	20.6	22.4	19.8	20.8	22.0	27.0	na
Credit to the private sector	24.7	24.7	19.5	11.2	11.1	10.1	8.5	16.0	12.4	12.6	12.1	13.5	14.4	16.2	na
Real Credit to the private sector	5.9	4.8	0.8	-6.7	-6.1	-7.4	-8.4	-0.6	-3.8	-2.8	-3.2	-1.8	-0.8	2.5	na
Interest rates (%)															
Monetary Policy rate	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5
Interbank rate	25.3	23.5	25.4	25.4	25.4	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.3	25.23	25.2
91-Day treasury bill rate	23.1	22.7	22.7	22.6	22.8	22.8	22.8	22.8	22.8	22.9	22.8	20.9	16.4	16.16	15.94
182-Day treasury bill rate	24.4	24.5	24.5	24.6	24.6	24.6	24.6	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.3	22.6	17.6	17.38	16.99
Average lending rate	27.5	28.2	28.2	28.6	32.1	32.3	32.7	33.0	33.0	29.3	32.1	32.0	31.2	31.3	32.3
3-month average Deposit rate	13.0	13.5	13.5	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	15.0
lending - deposit rate spread	14.5	14.7	14.7	15.6	19.1	19.3	19.7	20.0	20.0	16.3	19.1	19.0	18.2	18.3	17.3
External Sector (cummulative)															
Current account balance ($million)	-2,819	n.a	n.a	-540.4	n.a	n.a	-1,139.8	n.a	na	-1,915.9	na	na	-2,643.6	na	na
per cent of GDP	-7.8	n.a	n.a	-1.3	n.a	n.a	-2.7	n.a	na	-4.5	na	na	-6.2	na	na
Trade balance ($million)	-3,928.9	-249.2	-397.9	-675.4	-972.8	-1,274.9	-1,395.6	-1,665.5	-1,976.1	-1739.8	-2,142.9	-2,221.2	-1,689.2	258.0	573.0
per cent of GDP															
Commodity prices (International)															
Cocoa ($/tonne)	3,301	2,895	2,861	3,010.1	3,084.0	3,014.4	3,070.5	2,998.9	2,993.5	2,845.7	2,695.0	2,441.7	2,268.4	2,180.2	2,003.0
Gold ($/ounce)	1,069	1,098	1,199	1,243.0	1,242.8	1,256.2	1,275.2	1,338.3	1,339.2	1,326.7	1,274.6	1,237.6	1,151.2	1,192.8	1,233.8
Crude Oil ($/barrel)	38.9	31.9	33.4	39.8	46.9	47.7	49.9	46.6	47.2	47.2	51.4	47.1	54.9	55.5	56.0
Gross Foreign Assets (US$ m)	5,884.7	5,838.6	5,531.0	5,696.3	5,951.0	5,498.0	5,199.4	5,049.7	4,903.3	4,788.1	5,917.4	6,099.0	6,161.8	6401.6	6455.3
months of import cover	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.8	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.7
Net international reserves (US$m)	3,093.7	3,079.5	2,601.0	2,735.0	2,860.0	2,624.4	2,337.5	2,221.4	2,062.0	1,815.1	2,209.0	3,370.8	3,431.0	3187.43	3211.2
Fiscal (as at End-Period)															
Net Domestic Financing (GHS Million)	2,422.7	967.7	2,620.9	3,394.5	4,097.2	5,365.6	5,646.9	7,898.0	10,099.1	9,812.3	9,528.9	9,963.2	11,316.2	3450.4	4227
Per cent of GDP	1.7	0.6	1.7	2.1	2.6	3.4	3.6	4.7	6.1	5.9	5.7	6.0	6.8	1.75	2.08
Non-Performing Loan(NPL)	14.7	14.6	15.6	16.2	18.6	19.3	18.8	19.1	18.6	19.0	19.0	18.8	17.6	18.0	17.7
Non-Performing Loan(Excluding Loss)	6.8	6.5	7.6	8.3	10.4	11.5	10.9	11.0	10.6	10.8	10.2	9.8	8.4	9.0	8.6