

## **Selected Economic Indicators**

### **Analysis on External Sector Developments**

#### **➤ Exchange Rate**

At the end of Farvardin 1402 (April 2023), each US dollar was exchanged in the unofficial market at an average rate of 515.6 thousand Iranian rials, indicating an increase of 1.9 percent compared with Esfand 1401 (March 2023). Meanwhile, the rate of each US dollar against the Iranian rial exchanged via the Electronic Transaction System (ETS) increased by 5.5 percent compared with March 2023 to reach 410.3 thousand rials. This is against the backdrop of relatively favorable conditions for the country's foreign exchange sources and uses (as two critical factors affecting the exchange rate). Meanwhile, guided by the goal to preserve stability and tranquility in the foreign exchange market, the CBI has adopted various measures and implemented diverse policies to facilitate the timely provision of the foreign exchange required by importers. Moreover, the CBI has put on its agenda catering for people's precautionary demand for foreign currency, deepening of the official foreign exchange market, and ensuring the sound implementation of policies requiring the exporters to bring their foreign earnings back into the economy.

#### **➤ External Debt (Actual Obligations)**

The balance of the external debt of the country reached \$6.7 billion in April 2023, up by 6.4 percent compared with March 2023. Out of the total amount of debt, 31.6 percent (equal to \$2.1 billion) was in the form of short-term debt, and 68.4 percent (\$4.6 billion) was related to long-term debt. On this basis, the share of the short-term debt out of total external debt increased by about 3.0 percentage points in April 2023 as compared with March 2023.

#### **➤ Foreign Trade**

According to Iran's Customs Administration, the value of exports through Customs amounted to \$3.6 billion in April 2023, indicating a fall of 12.9 percent compared with April 2022. Similarly, over the mentioned period, the value of imports decreased by 13.0 percent to \$3.1 billion. The price of each ton of exported goods fell by 26.1 percent, while that of each ton of imported goods rose by 15.6 percent. Meanwhile, the weight of exports through Customs increased by 17.8 percent to reach 10.5 million tons, while that of imports fell by 24.8 percent to reach 1.8 million tons.