

## **Selected Economic Indicators**

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

#### **➤ Exchange Rate**

In Mehr 1402 (October 2023), each US dollar was exchanged in the unofficial market at an average rate of 504.0 thousand Iranian rials, indicating an increase of 2.0 percent compared with Shahrivar 1402 (September 2023). Meanwhile, the rate of each US dollar against the Iranian rial exchanged via Iran Center for Exchange fell by 0.2 percent compared with September 2023 to reach 412.1 thousand rials. This was mainly due to relative stabilization of the external sector of the economy, promising political news, emergence of positive expectations regarding the foreign currency supply by the CBI, and favorable conditions in terms of meeting people's precautionary demand for foreign currency in Iran Center for Exchange as a result of the implementation of foreign exchange stabilization policies by the CBI in October 2023.

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

The balance of the external debt of the country reached \$5.5 billion in October 2023, down by 12.7 percent compared with Esfand 1401 (March 2023). Out of the total amount of debt, \$2.2 billion (39.7 percent) was in the form of short-term debt and \$3.3 billion (60.3 percent) was related to long-term debt. On this basis, the share of the short-term debt out of the total external debt increased by 11.2 percentage points in October 2023 as compared with March 2023.

#### **➤ Foreign Trade**

According to Iran's Customs Administration, the value of exports through Customs amounted to \$28.3 billion over the first seven months of 1402 (covering the period April through October 2023), indicating a fall of 1.0 percent compared with the respective period in the year before. On the contrary, the value of imports increased by 12.6 percent to \$36.0 billion over the mentioned period. Meanwhile, the weight of exports through Customs increased by 29.3 percent to reach 79.5 million tons and that of imports rose by 6.2 percent to reach 20.9 million tons. Accordingly, the price of each ton of exported goods fell by 23.4 percent, while that of each ton of imported goods rose by 6.0 percent.

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