



## BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (BoP) DEVELOPMENTS<sup>1</sup>:

### Preliminary estimates for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2016 (2016Q2)

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Preliminary data on Mauritius' balance of payments for 2016Q2 point to a current account deficit of Rs4.7 billion (equivalent to USD132 million and representing about 4.5 per cent of GDP) compared to Rs5.2 billion in 2015Q2 (equivalent to USD148 million and representing 5.2 per cent of GDP).

The deficit on the goods account widened from Rs15.5 billion (equivalent to USD438 million) in 2015Q2 to Rs16.8 billion (equivalent to USD478 million) in 2016Q2 as a result of a higher decline in the exports of goods compared to the fall in the imports of goods, in nominal terms. As a percentage of GDP, the goods account increased from 15.5 per cent in 2015Q2 to 16.3 per cent in 2016Q2. Year-on-year, exports and imports of goods (f.o.b.) declined by 15.3 per cent and 6.1 per cent, respectively. The significant decline in re-exports was mostly behind the drop in exports. Exclusive of '*Ship's stores and bunkers*', exports of goods recorded a decline of 13.3 per cent on account of drops of 28.8 per cent in 'Re-exports' and of 5.5 per cent in 'Domestic exports'.

The surplus on the services account is estimated at about Rs5.3 billion (equivalent to USD152 million) in 2016Q2, around 5.2 per cent of GDP unchanged compared to 2015Q2. Tourism earnings were buoyant and backed the surplus in the services account. The surplus on the income account, which includes GBC1s' transactions, is estimated at Rs9.3 billion for 2016Q2. The current transfers account is estimated to record a net shortfall of Rs2.5 billion in 2016Q2.

The capital and financial account, inclusive of reserve assets, is estimated to have recorded net inflows of Rs3.5 billion (equivalent to USD99 million) in 2016Q2. Direct investment in Mauritius is estimated to record net inflows of Rs175.2 billion (equivalent to USD4,973 million) in 2016Q2, while direct investment abroad is estimated to have registered net outflows of Rs37.7 billion (equivalent to USD1,069 million). Exclusive of GBC transactions, direct investment flows in Mauritius net of repatriation are estimated at Rs2.4 billion. The portfolio investment and the 'Other investment' accounts are estimated to post net outflows of Rs63.0 billion and Rs62.8 billion in 2016Q2, respectively.

The country recorded a higher balance of payments surplus of Rs8.3 billion (equivalent to USD235 million) in 2016Q2 compared to Rs2.6 billion (USD75 million) in 2015Q2.

Table 1 provides details on the balance of payments in Rs million and USD million.

**Research & Economic Analysis Department**

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<sup>1</sup> Including estimates for cross-border transactions of GBC1s.