

## METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

Following the IMF's recommendation to include cross border transactions of global business entities in our external accounts, the quarterly Balance of Payments accounts have been revised since 2010. As a result there is a break in the balance of payments time series data. Prior to 2010, cross border transactions of global business entities are not available.

For consistency between the external accounts and the monetary and financial statistics, the net foreign assets in the Depository Corporations Survey are no longer adjusted. The net foreign assets data series in tables 12, 13 and 16b of the Bulletin have been revised accordingly since January 2010.

Other changes are:

- (1) In line with the underlying concept of international reserves as set out in the sixth edition of the IMF Balance of Payments Manual (BPM6), the Bank has shifted its focus on Gross Official International Reserves as its measure of the country's reserves. As defined in BPM6, a country's international reserves refer to "those external assets that are **readily available** to and **controlled by monetary authorities** for meeting balance of payments financing needs, for intervention in exchange markets to affect the currency exchange rate, and/or for other purposes (such as maintaining confidence in the currency and the economy, and serving as a basis for foreign borrowing)". The Gross Official International Reserves of the country consists of the gross foreign assets of the Bank (excluding the Bank's foreign equity participation as this does not meet the criteria of "**readily available**" reserves), the country's reserve position at the IMF and the Government of Mauritius foreign assets.
- (2) With effect from the March 2012 issue of the Monthly Statistical Bulletin, the Bank ceases to release Net International Reserves which included the Net Foreign Assets of Other Depository Corporations.
- (3) On IMF's recommendation, import cover is now being computed based on imports of goods, *FOB* and non-factor services rather than imports of goods, *CIF*. A revised historical data series will be released on the Bank's website at a later stage.

Statistics Division

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