

CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 DECEMBER 2022

CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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CORPORATE INFORMATION

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

NON-EXECUTIVES

Doris Sheba Brown
Richard A. Dorley
James B. Dennis
Timothy Thomas

EXECUTIVES

J. Aloysius Tarlue Jr. - Executive Governor
Dr. Musa Dukuly - Deputy Governor for Economic Policy
Nyemadi D. Pearson - Deputy Governor for Operations

AUDITORS

Deloitte & Touche
Chartered Accountants
The Deloitte Place, Plot No, 71
George Walker Bush Highway, North Dzorwulu
P.O. Box GP 453
Accra, Ghana

Baker Tilly
Certified Public Accountants
21st Street & Gibson Avenue
Fiamah, Sinkor
Monrovia, Liberia

SOLICITORS

Esther H. Barclay
Counselor
Central Bank of Liberia
Post Office Box 2048
Ashmum & Lynch Streets
Monrovia, Liberia

International Group of Legal Advocates and Consultants
3rd Floor, 4 Clay Street, Crown Hill
Monrovia, Liberia

Brumskine and Associates
Tubman Boulevard
P. O. Box 1344
Monrovia, Liberia

International Law Group LLC
Lansdowne at Fort Norris, 12 Broad Street
Monrovia, Liberia

REGISTERED OFFICE

Central Bank of Liberia
Post Office Box 2048
Ashmum & Lynch Streets
Monrovia, Liberia

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Introduction

The Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) is committed to the principles and implementation of good corporate governance. The Bank recognizes the valuable contribution that it makes to long-term business prosperity and to ensuring accountability to the Government of Liberia (GOL). The CBL believes that full disclosure and transparency in its operations are in the interests of good governance. As indicated in the statement of responsibilities of Governors and notes to the financial statements, the Bank has adopted internationally recognized standard accounting practices and has implemented rigorous internal controls to facilitate the reliability of the financial statements.

The Board of Governors

The Board is responsible for the formulation and implementation of policies and controlling and monitoring activities of the Bank's executive management. The Board consists of five (5) Governors, including, the Executive Governor who serves as Chairman of the Board and four (4) Non-Executive Governors. Members of the Board are appointed by the President of Liberia and confirmed by the Liberian senate. The Non-Executive Governors are independent of management and free from any constraints, which could materially interfere with the exercise of their independent judgment. They have the experience and knowledge of the industry, markets, financial and/or other business information to make valuable contributions to the Bank's progress. The Board is required to meet as often as is required, but not less frequently than once every three months.

The Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is made up of four (4) non-executive Governors. Committee members are independent of management and free of any relationships that could interfere with their independent judgments. The committee meets on a quarterly basis. Members of the audit committee elect the Chairman of the Audit Committee. The terms of reference of the Audit Committee are made available to members of management. The duties of the Audit Committee include keeping under review the scope and results of the audit, as well as the independence and objectivity of the external auditor. The Audit Committee also keeps under review internal financial controls, risk management, and compliance with laws and regulations. Additionally, the Audit Committee reviews reports prepared by the Internal Audit Section in addition to the financial statements of the Central Bank.

Board Investment Committee

The Board Investment Committee is made up of three (3) members of the Board of Governors, including, Executive Governor. The purpose of the committee is to exercise appropriate oversight with respect to the prudent investment of the CBL's assets in accordance with the long-term objects of the Bank. In doing so, the committee's broad objectives are as follows: To provide oversight of the finance and investment functions of the CBL by establishing guidelines for the investment of the CBL assets, to determine or approve asset allocations to achieve the CBL's objectives, to assist the Board in evaluating investment transactions in which the CBL engages as part of its business strategy from time to time and take corrective action when it becomes apparent that objectives and guidelines are not being met and lastly to perform such other duties and responsibilities as are enumerated in and consistent with this charter or as delegated by the Board.

External Auditors

On December 21, 2020, the Board of Governors appointed Deloitte & Touche (Ghana) together with Baker Tilly (Liberia), to serve as its external auditors for the audit of the Central Bank of Liberia's financial statements from 2020 to 2022.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Governors present their report together with the financial statements of the Central Bank of Liberia ("the Bank") for the year ended December 31, 2022.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Acts of Legislature establishing the Central Bank of Liberia (approved into law on March 18, 1999) and By-laws adopted on December 16, 1999 and amended on October 20, 2020, require the Governors to ensure that financial statements prepared for each financial year give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Bank and the result of its operations for the financial period. In preparing the financial statements, the Board of Governors are required to:

- Select and consistently apply suitable accounting policies are in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Ensure that the financial statements are prepared on a going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Bank will continue to be in business.
- Ensure that proper accounting records are maintained which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Central Bank of Liberia.
- Ensure that the financial statements comply with the reporting requirements of the Act of Legislature establishing the Bank, as well as the by-laws pertaining to its operation; and
- Put in place relevant mechanisms for safeguarding the assets of the Bank, accordingly, take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities, if any, in the normal course of business.

The statement above is made with the view of distinguishing, for the benefit of all interested parties, the responsibilities of the Board of Governors and those of the External Auditor in relation to the financial statements of the Central Bank of Liberia.

NATURE OF BUSINESS/ FUNCTIONS

The Central Bank has functional independence, operational autonomy, power, and exclusive authority to:

- Formulate and implement monetary policy.
- Administer the currency laws and regulate the supply of Liberian Dollar.
- Promote a safe, sound, and efficient payment system and provide supervision over payment service providers as further specified in relevant laws and regulations,
- Act as fiscal agent for the Government.
- Administer and enforce the New Financial Institutions Act of 1999 or its successor legislation.
- License, regulate, monitor, and supervise and resolve bank and non-bank financial institutions as well as non-bank financial services institutions.
- Hold and manage the foreign exchange reserves of Liberia, including gold.
- Advise the Government on financial and economic matters.
- Conduct foreign exchange operations; and
- Collaborate with the relevant agencies of government responsible for enforcing anti-money laundering, counter financing of terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction laws regarding bank and non-bank financial institutions as well as non-bank financial services institution.
- Formulate and coordinate macro-prudential policy and supervision.
- Adopt and implement the regulatory framework for securities exchange as further specified in relevant laws and regulations.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

GOVERNORS' INTEREST

The statement of responsibility of the Governors is set out on page 4. The Governors of the Bank do not have any interest in contracts entered into by the Bank.

FINANCIAL RESULTS

The financial results for the year are set out below:

	2022	2021
	L\$'000	L\$'000
General reserves brought forward – January 1	(17,735,163)	(21,193,419)
Operating (loss)/ profit attributed to shareholder	(3,329,333)	3,458,256
General reserves carried forward – December 31	(21,064,496)	(17,735,163)

Currency Reform Project

At the end of 2020, the Central Bank of Liberia informed the National Legislature that total stock of Liberian Dollar supply in the economy stood at Twenty-Five Billion, Two Hundred Fifty-Seven Million Liberian Dollars (L\$25,257,000,000). While coins accounted for Twenty-Three Million Fifty Thousand (L\$23,050,000) of the total currency stock. Hence, Joint Resolution #001/2021 from the Senate and the House of Representatives authorized the Central Bank of Liberia to print a New Family of Liberian Dollar Bank Notes in the amount of Forty-Eight Billion Seven Hundred and Thirty-Four Million Liberian Dollar (L\$48,704,000,000).

The proposed amount is informed by assumptions, including assumptions for the commercial banks operating account balances at the CBL, reserve and operational vaults position of the CBL, de-dollarization and short to medium-term forecast of the economic growth and liquidity demand.

The below provides details of the breakdown:

- Total Liberian Dollar currency (stock) shall be Twenty-Five Billion Two Hundred Eighty-One Million (L\$25,281,000,000)
- Provision for commercial banks Liberian dollar operating accounts is estimated to be Six Billion Three Hundred Fifteen Million Liberian Dollars (L\$6,315,000,000);
- A portion (24 percent) of United States Dollar operation account of commercial banks. Represents Four Billion Liberian dollars (L\$4,000,000,000)
- Allowance for medium term growth shall be Six Billion One Hundred Thirty-Six Million. Liberian Dollars (L\$6,136,000,000) over the next three (3) years.
- Provision for increased de-dollarization is estimated at Two Billion Liberian Dollars (L\$2,000,000,000) over the next 3 years; and
- Provision for the reserve vaults holdings over the years 2021-2023 accounts for Five Billion Liberian Dollars (L\$5,000,000,000).

The total cost of printing the Forty-Eight Billion, Seven Hundred and Thirty-four Million Liberian Dollars (L\$48,734,000,000) is Forty-Five Million, Five Hundred and Twenty-Two Thousand United States Dollars (US\$45,522,000) CBL has informed the National Legislature that due to constraints posed by the international Monetary Fund (IMF) Extended Credit Facility (ECF) Program benchmarks. The Bank can only provide as budgetary allocation Twenty-One Million United States Dollars (US\$21,000,000) cumulatively in three years as part of the printing cost and has requested the Government of Liberia to fund the financing gap of Twenty-Four Million Five Hundred and Twenty-Two Thousand United States Dollars (US\$24,522,000) plus additional Five Million United States Dollars (US\$5,000,000) to cover the cost of logistics, making a total financing gap of Twenty-Nine Million, Five Hundred and Twenty-Two Thousand (US\$29,522,000).

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

In accordance with the Resolution, the National Legislature comprising the Senate and House of Representatives hereby authorizes the CBL to print and mint new family of currency in an amount up to Forty-Eight Billion, Seven Hundred and Thirty-Four Million Liberian Dollars (L\$48,734,000,000) as requested subject to the following conditions:

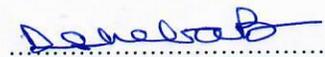
- That the denomination of banknotes to be printed shall be L\$20, L\$50, L\$100, L\$500, and L\$1,000 and the denominations to be minted in coins shall be L\$ 5 and L\$ 10.
- The CBL shall ensure that the printing of the banknotes and minting of coins shall be undertaken during 2021, 2022 and 2024 to respond to future liquidity in 2024.
- The CBL shall put in place adequate logistics and governance arrangements, including appropriate procedures, internal controls. and compliance functions to ensure the integrity and transparency of the currency reform process.
- That CBL shall draw up a detailed implementation plan that is commensurate with its implementation capacities; and
- That CBL shall ensure effective internal and external financial and system audit as well as risk mitigating measures to safeguard the reform process and ensure full accountability.
- The CBL shall undertake to expedite the currency reform process while respecting capacity limits to implement it safely and while ensuring that the economy is supplied with adequate liquidity throughout the operation.
- The CBL shall arrange with the printers, appropriate payment plan considering the budget of the Bank and financing gap of such plan shall be discussed and concluded through a formalized arrangement with the MFDP.
- That the National Legislature shall ensure that the financing gap for the full replacement in excess of the amount allocated in the CBL's budget for printing of banknotes and minting of coins is made available through budgetary appropriations:
- The CBL and MFDP shall execute appropriate Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to give effect to the above bullet point; and
- Given the national emergency of the need for Liberian dollar currency, the CBL shall use the appropriate procurement procedures in keeping with its Procurement Policy.
- The CBL shall make publicly available monthly pertinent information of the currency reform implementation. including data on the actual volume and value of currency imported, put into circulation, withdrawn from circulation, and destroyed.
- That the replacement shall only be done through the CBL, the commercial banks and designated financial institutions regulated and supervised by the CBL with strict supervision and monitoring by the CBL; and
- The CBL shall implement. in conjunction with the printer, plans that will mitigate counterfeiting of new family of banknotes.

APPROVAL OF THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The report of the directors and the financial statements were approved by the board of directors on April 30, 2023 and signed on their behalf as follows:



.....
J. Aloysius Tarlue Jr.
(Executive Governor)



.....
Doris Sheba Brown
(Governor)

Date: April 30, 2023

Date: April 30, 2023

Independent Joint Auditors' Report To the Shareholder of Central Bank of Liberia

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Central Bank of Liberia, set out on pages 11 to 80, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2022, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory disclosures.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Central Bank of Liberia as at 31 December 2022, and its financial performance and cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Central Bank of Liberia Act 1999 (As amended by the Central Bank of Liberia Act 2020).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Bank in accordance with the requirements of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' (IESBA) International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA code) and other independence requirements applicable to performing audits of financial statements in Liberia. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

A full list of partners and directors is available on request

Deloitte Ghana is an Associate of Deloitte Africa, a Member of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited.

Baker Tilly Liberia Limited trading as Baker Tilly is a member of the global network of Baker Tilly International Ltd., the members of which are separate and independent legal entities.

Independent Joint Auditors’ Report - continued To the Shareholder of Central Bank of Liberia

Key Audit Matter	How the matter was addressed in the audit
Valuation of defined benefit obligation	
<p>As at 31 December 2022, the Bank’s retirement benefit obligation was LRD 2,507.600 million (2021: LRD 2,334.009 million). Refer to Notes 3.9.1 and 31 of the financial statements</p> <p>The valuation of obligations for employee defined benefits involves projecting the benefits the scheme members are expected to be paid in the future. Benefits are paid either upon retirement, death or cessation of employment with the Bank. The amount of the benefit payable to each eligible beneficiary depends on the length of service and the level of earnings when the separation event occurs.</p> <p>In making these projections, assumptions are made about the likelihood of a benefit becoming payable at any future date, future investment returns and increases in a staff member’s earnings.</p> <p>The retirement benefits reserve is subject to volatility as the valuation is sensitive to changes in key assumptions such as the discount rate and inflation estimates. The setting of assumptions is complex and involves the application of significant judgement.</p>	<p>We evaluated the design and tested the implementation of key controls over the valuation of the Bank’s retirement benefit obligation.</p> <p>In evaluating the design of controls, we considered the appropriateness of each control, considering the nature and significance of the risk, competence and authority of person(s) performing the control, frequency, consistency with which the control is performed and the criteria for investigation and process for follow-up.</p> <p>We tested the accuracy and completeness of data provided by management to its pension valuation experts.</p> <p>We tested the validity of the underlying obligations per applicable policies of the Bank.</p> <p>We engaged our internal actuarial valuation specialists for an independent assessment of the appropriateness of the methodologies and assumptions used to determine the value of the actuarial liabilities of the fund.</p> <p>Based on the procedures described above, we found management’s estimate of the defined benefit obligation to be reasonable.</p>

Other Information

The Governors are responsible for the other information provided with the financial statements. The other information comprises Corporate Governance information and the Report of the Board of Governors, which we obtained prior to the date of this report, and the Annual Report, which is expected to be made available to us after that date. The other information does not include the financial statements and our auditors’ report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not and will not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance or conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditors’ report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

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Independent Joint Auditor's Report - continued

To the Shareholder of Central Bank of Liberia

Responsibilities of the Governors for the Financial Statements

The Governors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Central Bank of Liberia Act 1999 (As amended by the Central Bank of Liberia Act 2020) and for such internal control as the governors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the governors are responsible for assessing the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the governors either intend to liquidate the Bank or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bank's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the governors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the governors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Bank to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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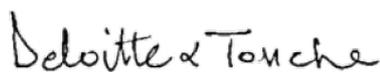
Independent Joint Auditors' Report - continued To the Shareholder of Central Bank of Liberia

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

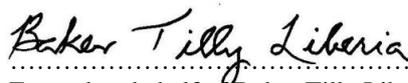
From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current year and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditors' report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

The engagement partners on the audit resulting in this independent auditors' report are **Emmanuel Martey (ICAG/P/1476)** and **Arthur Fumbah (LICPA/P/52)**.



For and on behalf of Deloitte & Touche
ICAG/F/2023/129)
Chartered Accountants
The Deloitte Place, Plot No.71
Off George Walker Bush Highway
North Dzorwulu
Accra - Ghana

8 May 2023



For and on behalf of Baker Tilly Liberia
(LICPA/F/2023/86)
Certified Public Accountants
21st Street & Gibson Avenue
Fiamah, Sinkor
1000 Monrovia 10
Liberia

8 May 2023

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CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA
 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

	Note	2022	2021
Interest income	6	3,276,271	3,639,288
Interest expense	6i	(745,101)	(1,409,622)
Net interest income		2,531,170	2,229,666
Fees and commissions	7	628,299	602,587
Other income	8	691,098	5,500,436
Operating income		3,850,567	8,332,689
Impairment charge on financial assets	9	(1,409,334)	(636,569)
Administrative expenses	11	(4,238,640)	(3,918,763)
Currency expense	12	(1,531,926)	(319,101)
(Loss)/profit for the year		(3,329,333)	3,458,256
Other comprehensive income			
<i>Items that will not be classified to profit or loss</i>			
Remeasurement of pension plan	31	335,925	(116,233)
<i>Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss</i>			
Foreign currency translation differences	32(c)	6,219,514	(12,591,337)
Total other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year		6,555,439	(12,707,570)
Total comprehensive income/ (loss)		3,226,106	(9,249,314)

The notes on pages 15 - 80 are an integral part of these financial statements.

CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA
 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

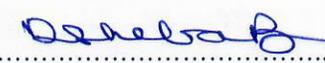
(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

	Note	2022	2021
Assets			
Cash and balances with other central banks	13	40,346,531	25,482,638
Cash and balances with commercial banks	14	1,722,557	1,690,466
Loans and advances to operating banks	15	2,927,309	2,836,745
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia	16	101,147,085	84,249,104
Investment securities	17	2,588,322	4,735,788
Deposits with International Monetary Fund	18	116,352,210	130,808,527
Staff loans	19	552,220	524,769
Other assets	20	2,719,669	1,991,529
Intangible assets	21	72,823	84,563
Property, plant and equipment	22	5,436,160	5,007,729
Total assets		273,864,886	257,411,858
Liabilities			
Currency in circulation	24	26,175,484	24,085,949
Deposits from commercial banks and forex bureau	25	22,862,364	20,379,991
Deposits of Government of Liberia and agencies	26	18,054,662	13,911,696
Amounts due to International Monetary Fund	27	168,513,092	167,420,063
Other liabilities	28	8,634,712	5,823,514
Market Instruments	29	6,539,318	6,246,162
Provident fund obligation	30	1,002,636	861,562
Retirement benefit obligation	31	2,507,600	2,334,009
Total liabilities		254,289,868	241,062,946
Equity			
Share capital	32(a)	7,598,587	7,598,587
General reserves	32(b)	(21,064,496)	(17,735,163)
Translation reserve	32(c)	31,021,571	24,802,057
Other reserve	32(d)	2,019,356	1,683,431
Total equity		19,575,018	16,348,912
Total equity and liabilities		273,864,886	257,411,858

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Governors on April 30, 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



 J. Aloysius Tarlue Jr.
 (Executive Governor)



 Doris Sheba Brown
 (Governor)

Date: April 30, 2023

Date: April 30, 2023

The notes on pages 15 - 80 are an integral part of these financial statements.

CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA
 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

	Share Capital	General Reserve	Other Reserve	Translation Reserve	Total
Balance at January 1, 2022	7,598,587	(17,735,163)	1,683,431	24,802,057	16,348,912
Total comprehensive income					
Loss for the year	-	(3,329,333)	-	-	(3,329,333)
<i>Other comprehensive income</i>					
Re-measurement of pension plan	-	-	335,925	-	335,925
Translation difference	-	-	-	6,219,514	6,219,514
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	(3,329,333)	335,925	6,219,514	3,226,206
Balance at December 31, 2022	7,598,587	(21,064,496)	2,019,356	31,021,571	19,575,018
Balance at January 1, 2021	7,598,587	(21,193,419)	1,799,664	37,393,394	25,598,226
Total Comprehensive income					
Profit for the year	-	3,458,256	-	-	3,458,256
<i>Other comprehensive income</i>					
Remeasurement of pension plan	-	-	(116,233)	-	(116,233)
Translation difference	-	-	-	(12,591,337)	(12,591,337)
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	3,458,256	(116,233)	(12,591,337)	(9,249,314)
Balance at December 31, 2021	7,598,587	(17,735,163)	1,683,431	24,802,057	16,348,912

The notes on pages 15 - 80 are an integral part of these financial statements.

CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

	Note	2022	2021
Cash flows from operating activities			
(Loss)/Profit for the year		(3,329,333)	3,458,256
<i>Adjustments for:</i>			
- Impairment loss	9	1,409,334	636,569
- Interest income	6	(3,276,271)	(3,639,288)
- Clearing suspense release	8	-	(5,253,778)
- Interest expense	6i	745,101	1,409,622
- Depreciation	22	227,565	266,984
- Other income (Grant income)	8 (i)	542,235	-
- Amortization	22	8,998	9,875
- Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	22(a)	1,730	-
		(3,670,641)	(3,111,760)
Changes in:			
- Staff loans	19	(68,270)	52,933
- Other assets	20	(728,140)	(758,203)
- Deposits with International Monetary Fund	18	14,467,239	(37,320,272)
- Loans and advances to commercial banks	16	99,699	1,432,763
- Loans and advances to non-bank financial institutions		(200)	503
- Loans and advances to Government of Liberia	17	(16,527,220)	15,440,683
- Currency in circulation	24	2,089,535	179,865
- Deposits of commercial banks and forex bureau	25	2,482,373	919,083
- Deposits of Government of Liberia and agencies	26	4,142,966	(5,631,244)
- Amounts due to International Monetary Fund	27	1,093,029	36,282,780
- Other liabilities	28	1,930,301	(5,227,739)
- Deferred income-government grant	28(i)	1,518,669	-
- Provident fund obligation	30	141,074	(37,639)
- Retirement benefit obligations	31	173,591	230,676
- Market instruments	29	293,156	1,212,369
		7,437,162	3,664,789
Interest paid	6	(680,495)	(1,409,622)
Interest received	6	2,935,592	3,639,288
Net cash generated from in operating activities		9,692,259	5,894,464
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant, and equipment	22	(296,649)	(225,965)
Government grant towards purchase of property, plant, and equipment	28(i)	227,086	-
Purchase of intangible assets	22	-	(9,671)
Proceed of investment securities		38,762	(501,774)
Proceeds from sale of investment securities		215,510	200,000
Net cash generated from /(used in) investing activities		184,709	(537,410)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		9,876,967	5,357,054
Cash and cash equivalents at January 1		30,751,297	31,791,112
Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash and cash equivalents held		1,440,824	(6,396,869)
Cash and cash equivalents at December 31	33	42,069,088	30,751,297

The notes on pages 15 - 80 are an integral part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

1. General information

The Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) is the Central Bank of the Republic of Liberia and was incorporated under a March 18, 1999, Act of Legislature. The first Board of Governors and other officers of the Central Bank officially took office on October 20, 1999. The Central Bank of Liberia is the successor to the erstwhile National Bank of Liberia (NBL) and took over its functions, assets, and liabilities. The address of its registered office is Central Bank of Liberia, P.O. Box 2048, Monrovia, Liberia. The principal activities of the Central Bank of Liberia are stated under note 1.5 below. The financial statements comprise the individual financial statements of the Central Bank as at and for the year ended 31 December 2022.

1.1 Share capital

The minimum authorized capital of the Central Bank is L\$2 billion. That amount may be increased by legislative amendment to the Act, when proposed to the National Legislature by the Board of Governors of the Central Bank. According to the provisions of the Act, the Central Bank is required to have a minimum paid-up capital of L\$500 million.

1.2 Subscribed capital

The Government of Liberia (GOL) in October 1999 contributed to the share capital of CBL through the issuance of promissory notes of L\$200 million (equivalent of US\$ 5 million at the exchange rate ruling at the date of issue).

1.3 Paid-up capital

The consideration for the paid-up capital was the net book value of assets and liabilities taken over from the National Bank of Liberia (NBL) on the establishment of CBL. The net worth of the erstwhile NBL was L\$7.3 billion (34(a)). The principal assets which underline the capital transfer of L\$7.3 billion are two long-term loans denominated in Liberia dollars and United States dollars due from the Government of Liberia (GOL). The amounts are a result of transactions between the Government and the NBL prior to the formation of the CBL.

1.4 Ownership

In keeping with the relevant provisions of the Act, all paid-up capital shall be subscribed to and held exclusively by the GOL. No reduction of capital shall be affected except by amendment of the legislative Act which created CBL.

1.5 Objectives of the Central Bank

The primary objectives of the Bank, as set out in the amended Act signed on October 20, 2020, are:

- To achieve and maintain domestic price stability in the economy by formulating and implementing monetary policy.
- Contribute to the fostering and maintaining a stable financial system by conducting and enforcing macro prudential policy, and
- Support the general economic policy of the government of Liberia in keeping it monetary policy mandate.

1.6 Functions of the Central Bank

The principal objectives of the Bank, as set out in the amended Act signed on October 20, 2020, are:

- Formulate and implement monetary policy.
- Issue Liberian Dollars, Bank notes and coins subject to constitutional requirement as exercised once every three (3) years in a specified and approved amount
- Administer the currency laws and regulate the supply of Liberian Dollar.
- Determine an appropriate foreign exchange regime
- Formulate and implement the exchange rate policy
- Act as fiscal agent for the Government.
- Administer and enforces the New Financial Institute Act of 1999 or its successor legislation
- License, regulate, monitor, and supervise and resolve bank and non-bank financial institutions as well as other specialized deposit taking Institutions.
- Collect and produce statistics relative to its functions.
- Hold and manage the foreign exchange reserves of Liberia, including gold.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

1.6 Functions of the Central Bank (cont'd)

- Advise the Government on financial and economic matters.
- Conduct foreign exchange operations.
- Promote a safe, sound, and efficient payment system and provide supervision over payment service provider as further specified in relevant laws and regulations,
- Adopt and implement the regulatory framework for securities exchange as further specified in relevant laws and regulations.
- Established a department of Insurance to be headed by a Director exclusively to regulate to insurance sector through a Board Resolution for the purpose of improving regulation. This provision allows for highlighting oversight of the insurance sector with the aim of strengthening the sector before rolling it over to a regulatory body outside the Central Bank of Liberia within five (5) years of the enactment of this amendment. The Insurance Act shall be reviewed during this period for possible enactment to allow for consistency.
- Formulate and coordinate macro-prudential policy and supervision.
- Collaborate with the relevant agencies of government responsible for enforcing anti-money laundering, counter financing of terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction laws regarding bank and non-bank financial services institutions.

2. Basis of preparation

2.1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). Additional information required by the amended CBL Act, 2020 have been included where appropriate.

Changes to significant accounting policies are described in Note 2.4.

2.2 Functional and presentation currency

Both the Liberian Dollar (L\$) and the United States Dollars (US\$) are legal tenders in Liberia and circulated freely in the country simultaneously. Although, transactions are consummated in both currencies, the majority of the Bank's transactions are currently denominated in United States Dollars (US\$). Accordingly, the Central Bank considers the United States Dollars as its functional currency for the purpose of IFRS.

The financial statements are presented in Liberian Dollars (L\$). This is in keeping with requirements of Part V Section 22 of the October 20, 2020, amended Central Bank of Liberia Act of 1999 which requires the use of the Liberian Dollar for all accounting, financial reporting, and official purposes in Liberia. All amounts have been rounded to the nearest thousand, unless otherwise indicated.

2.3 Use of judgement and estimates

In preparing these financial statements, management has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income, and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to estimates are recognised prospectively.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

2 Basis of preparation (continued)

2.3 Use of judgement and estimates (continued)

Judgements

Information about judgements made in applying accounting policies that have the most significant effects on the amounts recognised in the financial statements is included in the following notes.

Note 4.1.4(e) – Establishing the criteria for determining whether credit risk on the financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition, determining methodology for incorporating forward-looking information into measurement of expected credit loss and selection and approval of models used to measure expected credit loss.

Note 3.2.2 – classification of financial assets: assessment of the business model within which the assets are held and assessment of whether the contractual terms of the financial asset are SPPI on the principal amount outstanding.

Assumptions and estimation uncertainties

Information about assumptions and estimation uncertainties that have a significant risk of resulting in a material adjustment in the year ended 31 December 2021 is included in the following notes.

Notes 4.1.4(e) and 3.2.7: impairment of financial instruments: determining inputs into the ECL measurement model, including key assumptions used in estimating recoverable cash flows and incorporation of forward-looking information.

Note 32: measurement of Retirement benefit obligations: key actuarial assumptions.

Note 34: recognition and measurement of contingencies: key assumptions about the likelihood and magnitude of an outflow of resources.

COVID-19 consideration

Paragraph 125 of IAS 1 requires disclosure about the assumptions that a company makes about the future and other sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of resulting in a material adjustment within the next financial year. COVID-19 is to significantly impact such assumptions. During the pandemic, the Bank started facing disruption to business operations and economic activity, particularly where there has been implementation of stringent measures to contain or reduce the spread of the virus, with cascading impacts on both upstream and downstream supply chains; a more volatile capital, commodity, and foreign exchange markets; and disrupted business relations with companies that operate in the non-essential sectors as determined by the Central Government.

The above economic and business impacts will have significant and pervasive financial reporting implications on financial statements resulting in increased complexity, subjectivity and uncertainty which will impact the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure in the financial statements including but not limited to increased estimation uncertainty and changes to estimation techniques and assumptions for measuring expected credit loss (ECL), and measuring fair values of financial instruments. No impairment has been recognised on Non-financial assets specifically Property, plant and equipment as there has been no indicators of impairment such as market value decline, obsolescence or physical damage, worse economic performance than expected, among others. Management has therefore assessed that the assets useful life, depreciation method or residual value as earlier determined remains the same.

Allowances for credit losses

Assets accounted for at amortised cost are evaluated for impairment on a basis described in accounting policy 3.2.7 and note 4.1.2.

These critical assumptions have been applied consistently to all periods presented, except the Bank applied the impairment requirements under IFRS 9 f resulting in changes to the assumptions used for the calculation for provision for doubtful debts using the expected credit loss model. The expected credit loss model is the use of forecast of future economic conditions including macroeconomic factors.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

2 Basis of preparation (continued)

2.3 Use of judgement and estimates (continued)

Determining fair values

The determination of fair value for financial instruments that trade infrequently and have little price transparency, fair value is less objective, and requires varying degrees of judgement depending on liquidity, concentration, uncertainty of market factors, pricing assumptions and other risks affecting the specific instrument. The Bank's accounting policy on fair value measurements is discussed in Note 3.2.6

2.4 Changes in accounting policy and disclosures

A number of other new standards are also effective from 1 January 2022, but do not have a material effect on the Bank's financial statements.

3. Significant accounting policies

3.1 Foreign currency

3.1.1 Foreign currency transaction

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into US\$ using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into the functional currency at the exchange rate at the reporting date. The foreign currency gain or loss on monetary items is the difference between the amortised cost in the functional currency at the beginning of the year, adjusted for effective interest, impairment and payments during the year, and the amortised cost in the foreign currency translated at the spot exchange rate at the end of the year.

Non-monetary items that are measured based on historical cost in a foreign currency are translated at the exchange rate at the date of the transaction.

Foreign currency differences arising on translation are generally recognised in profit or loss. Non-monetary assets and liabilities measured at cost are translated at transaction date rates. Foreign currency differences are generally recognised in profit or loss and presented in other income or administrative expenses depending on whether the net results in a gain or a loss.

3.1.2 Translation from functional currency to presentational currency

The financial statements have been translated to the presentation currency (Liberian Dollar) as follows:

- Income and expenses for each statement of comprehensive income presented are translated from the functional currency to Liberian Dollar at annual average exchange rate; and
- Assets and liabilities for each statement of financial position presented are translated at the spot exchange rate at the reporting date.

All resulting exchange differences are recognised as a separate component of equity (translation reserve) in other comprehensive income. This reserve is non-distributable.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.2 Financial assets and financial liabilities

3.2.1 Recognition and initial measurement

The Bank initially recognises loans and advances, deposits, debt securities issued on the date on which they are originated. All other financial instruments (including regular-way purchases and sales of financial assets) are recognised on the trade date, which is the date on which the Bank becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

A financial asset or financial liability is measured initially at fair value plus, for an item not at Fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL), transaction costs that are directly attributable to its acquisition or issue.

3.2.2 Classification and subsequent measurement

On initial recognition, a financial asset is classified as measured at amortised cost.

A financial asset is measured at amortised cost if it meets both of the following conditions and is not designated as at FVTPL:

- 3.2.2.1 the asset is held within a business model whose objective is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows; and
- 3.2.2.2 the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payment of principal and interest (SPPI).

Business model assessment

The Bank makes an assessment of the objective of a business model in which an asset is held at a portfolio level because this best reflects the way the business is managed, and information is provided to management. The information considered includes:

the stated policies and objectives for the portfolio and the operation of those policies in practice. In particular, whether management's strategy focuses on earning contractual interest revenue, maintaining a particular interest rate profile, matching the duration of the financial assets to the duration of the liabilities that are funding those assets or realising cash flows through the sale of the assets.

how the performance of the portfolio is evaluated and reported to the Bank's management.

The risks that affect the performance of the business model (and the financial assets held within that business model) and how those risks are managed.

How managers of the business are compensated e.g., whether compensation is based on the fair value of the assets managed or the contractual cash flows collected.

The frequency, volume, and timing of sales in prior periods, the reasons for such sales and its expectations about future sales activity. However, information about sales activity is not considered in isolation, but as part of an overall assessment of how the Bank's stated objective for managing the financial assets is achieved and how cash flows are realised.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.2 Financial assets and financial liabilities (continued)

3.2.2 Classification and subsequent measurement (continued)

Assessment of whether contractual cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest on principal.

For the purposes of this assessment, ‘principal’ is defined as the fair value of the financial asset on initial recognition. ‘Interest’ is defined as consideration for the time value of money and for the credit risk associated with the principal amount outstanding during a particular period of time and for other basic lending risks and costs (e.g., liquidity risk and administrative costs), as well as profit margin.

In assessing whether the contractual cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest, the Bank considers the contractual terms of the instrument. This includes assessing whether the financial asset contains a contractual term that could change the timing or amount of contractual cash flows such that it would not meet this condition. In making the assessment, the Bank considers:

contingent events that would change the amount and timing of cash flows.
leverage features.

prepayment and extension terms.

terms that limit the Bank’s claim to cash flows from specified assets (e.g., non-recourse asset arrangements).
Features that modify consideration of the time value of money – e.g., periodical reset of interest rates.

Reclassification

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition, except in the period after the Bank changes its business model for managing financial assets.

3.2.3 *Derecognition*

Financial assets

The Bank derecognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred or in which the Bank neither transfers nor retains substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership and it does not retain control of the financial asset.

On derecognition of a financial asset, the difference between the carrying amount of the asset (or the carrying amount allocated to the portion of the asset derecognised) and the sum of the consideration received (including any new asset obtained less any new liability assumed).

Financial liabilities

The Bank derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged or cancelled or expire.

3.2.4 *Modifications of financial assets and financial liabilities*

Financial assets

If the terms of a financial asset are modified, then the Bank evaluates whether the cash flows of the modified asset are substantially different.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.2.4 Modifications of financial assets and financial liabilities (continued)

If the cash flows are substantially different, then the contractual rights to cash flows from the original financial asset are deemed to have expired. In this case, the original financial asset is derecognised and a new financial asset is recognised at fair value plus any eligible transaction costs. Any fees received as part of the modification are accounted for as follows:

- fees that are considered in determining the fair value of the new asset and fees that represent reimbursement of eligible transaction costs are included in the initial measurement of the asset; and
- other fees are included in profit or loss as part of the gain or loss on derecognition.

If cash flows are modified when the borrower is in financial difficulties, then the objective of the modification is usually to maximise recovery of the original contractual terms rather than to originate a new asset with substantially different terms. If the Bank plans to modify a financial asset in a way that would result in forgiveness of cash flows, then it first considers whether a portion of the asset should be written off before the modification takes place (see below for write-off policy). This approach impacts the result of the quantitative evaluation and means that the derecognition criteria are not usually met in such cases.

If the modification of a financial asset measured at amortised cost does not result in derecognition of the financial asset, then the Bank first recalculates the gross carrying amount of the financial asset using the original effective interest rate of the asset and recognises the resulting adjustment as a modification gain or loss in profit or loss. For floating-rate financial assets, the original effective interest rate used to calculate the modification gain or loss is adjusted to reflect current market terms at the time of the modification. Any costs or fees incurred, and fees received as part of the modification adjust the gross carrying amount of the modified financial asset and are amortised over the remaining term of the modified financial asset.

If such a modification is carried out because of financial difficulties of the borrower, then the gain or loss is presented together with impairment losses. In other cases, it is presented as interest income calculated using the effective interest rate method.

Financial liabilities

The Bank derecognises a financial liability when its terms are modified, and the cash flows of the modified liability are substantially different. In this case, a new financial liability based on the modified terms is recognised at fair value. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and consideration paid is recognised in profit or loss. Consideration paid includes non-financial assets transferred, if any, and the assumption of liabilities, including the new modified financial liability.

If the modification of a financial liability is not accounted for as derecognition, then the amortised cost of the liability is recalculated by discounting the modified cash flows at the original effective interest rate and the resulting gain or loss is recognised in profit or loss. For floating-rate financial liabilities, the original effective interest rate used to calculate the modification gain or loss is adjusted to reflect current market terms at the time of the modification. Any costs and fees incurred are recognised as an adjustment to the carrying amount of the liability and amortised over the remaining term of the modified financial liability by re-computing the effective interest rate on the instrument.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.2.5 Offsetting

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset, and the net amount presented in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Bank currently has a legally enforceable right to set off the amounts and it intends either to settle them on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Income and expenses are presented on a net basis only when permitted under IFRS.

3.2.6 Fair value measurement

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date in the principal or, in its absence, the most advantageous market to which the Bank has access at that date. The fair value of a liability reflects its non-performance risk.

When available, the Bank measures the fair value of an instrument using the quoted price in an active market for that instrument. A market is regarded as active if transactions for the asset or liability take place with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

If there is no quoted price in an active market, then the Bank uses valuation techniques that maximise the use of relevant observable inputs and minimise the use of unobservable inputs. The chosen valuation technique incorporates all of the factors that market participants would take into account in pricing a transaction.

The best evidence of the fair value of a financial instrument at initial recognition is normally the transaction price - i.e., the fair value of the consideration given or received. If the Bank determines that the fair value at initial recognition differs from the transaction price and the fair value is evidenced neither by a quoted price in an active market for an identical asset or liability nor based on a valuation technique that uses only data from observable markets, then the financial instrument is initially measured at fair value, adjusted to defer the difference between the fair value at initial recognition and the transaction price. Subsequently, that difference is recognised in profit or loss on an appropriate basis over the life of the instrument but no later than when the valuation is wholly supported by observable market data, or the transaction is closed out.

If an asset or a liability measured at fair value has a bid price and an asked price, then the Bank measures assets and long positions at a bid price and liabilities and short positions at an ask price.

Portfolios of financial assets and financial liabilities that are exposed to market risk and credit risk that are managed by the Bank on the basis of the net exposure to either market or credit risk are measured on the basis of a price that would be received to sell a net long position (or paid to transfer a net short position) for a particular risk exposure. Those portfolio-level adjustments are allocated to the individual assets and liabilities on the basis of the relative risk adjustment of each of the individual instruments in the portfolio.

The fair value of a financial liability when a demand feature (e.g., demand deposit) is not less than the amount payable on demand, discounted from the first date on which the amount could be required to be paid.

The Bank recognises transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy as of the end of the reporting period during which the change has occurred.

3.2.7 Impairment of financial assets

The Bank recognises loss allowances for ECL on the following financial instruments that are not measured at FVTPL:

- financial assets that are debt instruments.
- financial guarantee contracts issued; and

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3.2.7 Impairment of financial assets (continued)

The Bank measures loss allowances at an amount equal to lifetime ECL, except for the following, for which they are measured as 12-month ECL:

- debt investment securities that are determined to have low credit risk at the reporting date; and
- other financial instruments on which credit risk has not increased significantly since their initial recognition.

The Bank considers a debt investment security to have low credit risk when its credit risk rating is equivalent to the globally understood definition of ‘investment grade’. The Bank does not apply the low credit risk exemption to any other financial instruments.

12-month ECL are the portion of lifetime ECL that result from default events on a financial instrument that are possible within the 12 months after the reporting date. Financial instruments for which a 12-month ECL is recognised are referred to as ‘Stage 1 financial instrument. Financial instruments allocated to Stage 1 have not undergone a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition and are not credit-impaired.

Life-time ECL are the ECL that result from all possible default events over the expected life of the financial instrument. Financial instruments for which a lifetime ECL is recognised but which are not credit-impaired are referred to as ‘Stage 2 financial instruments. Financial instruments allocated to Stage 2 are those that have experienced a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition but are not credit-impaired.

Financial instruments for which lifetime ECL are recognised and that are credit-impaired are referred to as ‘Stage 3 financial instruments.

Measurement of ECL

ECL are a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses. They are measured as follows:

- *financial assets that are not credit-impaired at the reporting date:* as the present value of all cash shortfalls (i.e. the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the Bank expects to receive);
- *financial assets that are credit-impaired at the reporting date:* as the difference between the gross carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows.
- *undrawn loan commitments:* as the present value of the difference between the contractual cash flows that are due to the Bank if the commitment is drawn down and the cash flows that the Bank expects to receive; and
- *financial guarantee contracts:* the expected payments to reimburse the holder less any amounts that the Bank expects to recover.

When discounting future cash flows, the following discount rates are used:

- *financial assets other than purchased or originated credit-impaired (POCI) financial assets:* the original effective interest rate or an approximation thereof.
- *financial guarantee contracts issued:* the rate that reflects the current market assessment of the time value of money and the risks that are specific to the cash flows.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.2.7 Impairment of financial assets (continued)

Restructured financial assets

If the terms of a financial asset are renegotiated or modified or an existing financial asset is replaced with a new one due to financial difficulties of the borrower, then an assessment is made of whether the financial asset should be derecognised and ECL are measured as follows.

- If the expected restructuring will not result in derecognition of the existing asset, then the expected cash flows arising from the modified financial asset are included in calculating the cash shortfalls from the existing asset.
- If the expected restructuring will result in derecognition of the existing asset, then the expected fair value of the new asset is treated as the final cash flow from the existing financial asset at the time of its derecognition. This amount is included in calculating the cash shortfalls from the existing financial asset that are discounted from the expected date of derecognition to the reporting date using the original effective interest rate of the existing financial asset.

Credit-impaired financial assets

At each reporting date, the Bank assesses whether financial assets carried at amortised cost are credit-impaired (referred to as 'Stage 3 financial assets'). A financial asset is 'credit-impaired' when one or more events that have a detrimental impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset have occurred.

Evidence that a financial asset is credit-impaired includes the following observable data:

- significant financial difficulty of the borrower or issuer.
- a breach of contract such as a default or past due event.
- the restructuring of a loan or advance by the Bank on terms that the Bank would not consider otherwise.
- it is becoming probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation; or
- the disappearance of an active market for a security because of financial difficulties.

Measurement of ECL

A loan that has been renegotiated due to a deterioration in the borrower's condition is usually considered to be credit-impaired unless there is evidence that the risk of not receiving contractual cash flows has reduced significantly and there are no other indicators of impairment.

In making an assessment of whether an investment in sovereign debt is credit-impaired, the Bank considers the following factors:

- the market's assessment of creditworthiness as reflected in the bond yields.
- the rating agencies' assessments of creditworthiness.
- the country's ability to access the capital markets for new debt issuance.
- the probability of debt being restructured, resulting in holders suffering losses through voluntary or mandatory debt forgiveness; and
- the international support mechanisms in place to provide the necessary support as 'lender of last resort' to that country, as well as the intention, reflected in public statements, of governments and agencies to use those mechanisms. This includes an assessment of the depth of those mechanisms and, irrespective of the political intent whether there is the capacity to fulfil the required criteria.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.2.7 Impairment of financial assets (continued)

Presentation of allowances for ECL in the statement of financial position

Loss allowances for ECL are presented in the statement of financial position as follows:

- financial assets measured at amortised cost as a deduction from the gross carrying amount of the assets;
- loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts: generally, as a provision and
- where a financial instrument includes both a drawn and undrawn component, and the Bank cannot identify the ECL on the loan commitment component separately from those on the drawn component: the Bank presents a combined loss allowance for both components. The combined amount is presented as a deduction from the gross carrying amount of the drawn component. Any excess of the loss allowance over the gross amount of the drawn component is presented as a provision.

Write-off

Loans and debt securities are written off (either partially or in full) when there is no reasonable expectation of recovering a financial asset in its entirety or a portion thereof. This is generally the case when the Bank determines that the borrower does not have assets or sources of income that could generate sufficient cash flows to repay the amounts subject to write-off. This assessment is carried out at the individual assets level.

Recoveries of amounts previously written off are included in 'impairment losses on financial instruments' in profit or loss. Financial assets that are written off could still be subject to enforcement activities in order to comply with the Bank's procedures for recovery of amounts due.

Financial assets that are written off could still be subject to enforcement activities in order to comply with the Bank's procedures for recovery of amounts due.

Financial guarantee contracts held

The Bank assesses whether a financial guarantee contract held is an integral element of a financial asset that is accounted for as a component of that instrument or is a contract that is accounted for separately. The factors that the Bank considers when making this assessment include whether:

- the guarantee is implicitly part of the contractual terms of the debt instrument;
 - the guarantee is required by laws and regulations that govern the contract of the debt instrument;
 - the guarantee is entered into at the same time as and in contemplation of the debt instrument;
- and
- the guarantee is given by the parent of the borrower or another company within the borrower's group.

If the Bank determines that the guarantee is an integral element of the financial asset, then any premium payable in connection with the initial recognition of the financial asset is treated as a transaction cost of acquiring it. The Bank considers the effect of the protection when measuring the fair value of the debt instrument and when measuring ECL.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.3 Recognition of interest income

3.3.1 Effective interest rate

Interest income and expense are recognised in profit or loss using the effective interest method. The ‘effective interest rate’ is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument to:

- the gross carrying amount of the financial asset; or
- the amortised cost of the financial liability.

When calculating the effective interest rate for financial instruments other than purchased or originated credit impaired assets, the Bank estimates future cash flows considering all contractual terms of the financial instrument, but not ECL. For purchased or originated credit impaired financial assets, a credit adjusted effective interest rate is calculated using estimated future cash flows including ECL.

The calculation of the effective interest rate includes transaction costs and fees and points paid or received that are an integral part of the effective interest rate. Transaction costs include incremental costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of a financial asset or financial liability.

3.3.2 Amortised cost and gross carrying amount

The ‘amortised cost’ of a financial asset or financial liability is the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured on initial recognition minus the principal repayments, plus or minus the cumulative amortisation using the effective interest method of any difference between that initial amount and the maturity amount and, for financial assets, adjusted for any expected credit loss allowance. The ‘gross carrying amount of a financial asset’ is the amortised cost of a financial asset before adjusting for any expected credit loss allowance.

3.3.3 Calculation of interest income and expense

The effective interest rate of a financial asset or financial liability is calculated on initial recognition of a financial asset or a financial liability. In calculating interest income and expense, the effective interest rate is applied to the gross carrying amount of the asset (when the asset is not credit impaired) or to the amortised cost of the liability. The effective interest rate is revised as a result of periodic re estimation of cash flows of floating rate instruments to reflect movements in market rates of interest.

However, for financial assets that have become credit impaired subsequent to initial recognition, interest income is calculated by applying the effective interest rate to the amortised cost of the financial asset. If the asset is no longer credit impaired, then the calculation of interest income reverts to the gross basis.

For financial assets that were credit-impaired on initial recognition, interest income is calculated by applying the credit-adjusted effective interest rate to the amortised cost of the asset. The calculation of interest income does not revert to a gross basis, even if the credit risk of the asset improves.

Presentation

Interest income calculated using the effective interest method presented in the statement of comprehensive income interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost

Interest expense presented in the statement of comprehensive income includes:

- interest expense on financial liabilities measured at amortised cost.
- interest expense on lease liabilities.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.4 Fees and commissions income and expense

Fees and commission income and expense that are integral to the effective interest rate on a financial asset or financial liability are included in the effective interest rate.

Other fee and commission expenses relate mainly to transaction and service fees, which are expensed as the services are received.

3.5 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include notes and coins on hand, unrestricted balances held with other central banks and commercial banks and highly liquid financial assets with original maturities of three (3) months or less from the acquisition date that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in their fair value and are used by the Bank in the management of its short-term commitments.

Cash and bank balances are carried at amortised cost in the statement of financial position.

3.6 Property, plant and equipment

3.6.1 Recognition and measurement

Items of property and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses (if any).

Purchased software that is integral to the functionality of the related equipment is capitalized as part of that equipment.

3.6.1 Recognition and measurement

When parts of an item of property or equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items (major components) of property and equipment.

Any gain or loss on disposal of an item of property and equipment is recognised within other income in profit or loss.

3.6.2 Subsequent costs

Subsequent expenditure is capitalised only if it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the expenditure will flow to the Bank. Ongoing repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred.

3.6.3 Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of items of property and equipment less their estimated residual values using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives and is generally recognised in profit or loss. Freehold Land is not depreciated.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

3.6.3 Depreciation (continued)

The estimated useful lives for the current and comparative periods are as follows:

Leasehold improvements	6 years
Building	50 years
Equipment	3 years
Elevators	25 years
Motor vehicles	4 to 5 years
Furniture and fixtures	5 years

The assets' depreciation method, residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

3.7 Intangible assets

Intangible assets consist of Great Plains Accounting software, Bank master, Evercross, IDEA software, Eview Statistical software payment and credit reference systems software and WIP and WIP-Document Management Software. Intangible assets acquired by the Bank is measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Subsequent expenditure on software assets is capitalised only when it increases the future economic benefits embodied in the specific asset to which it relates. All other expenditure is recognised in profit or loss as it is incurred.

Software is amortised on a straight-line basis in profit or loss over its estimated useful life, from the date on which it is available for use. The estimated useful life of software for the current and comparative periods is three years. Amortization methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted, if appropriate.

3.8 Impairment of non-financial assets

At each reporting date, the Bank reviews the carrying amounts of its non-financial assets (other than investment properties and deferred tax assets) to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, then the asset's recoverable amount is estimated.

For impairment testing, assets are grouped together into the smallest group of assets that generates cash inflows from continuing use that is largely independent of the cash inflows of other assets or cash generating units (CGUs).

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the greater of its value in use and its fair value less costs to sell. Value in use is based on the estimated future cash flows, discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset or cash generating unit (CGU).

An impairment loss is recognised if the carrying amount of an asset or CGU exceeds its recoverable amount.

The Bank's corporate assets do not generate separate cash inflows and are used by more than one CGU. Corporate assets are allocated to CGUs on a reasonable and consistent basis and tested for impairment as part of the testing of the CGUs to which the corporate assets are allocated.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.8 Impairment of non-financial assets (continued)

Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss. They are allocated to reduce the carrying amounts of the assets in the CGU on a pro-rata basis.

An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

3.9 Employees' benefits

3.9.1 Defined benefit obligations

The Bank's obligation in respect of defined benefit plans is calculated separately for each plan by estimating the amount of future benefits that employees have earned in the current and prior periods and discounting that amount. The scheme is unfunded, and accordingly no assets related to the Scheme are recorded.

The calculation of defined benefit obligations is performed annually by a qualified actuary using the projected unit credit method.

Re-measurements of the defined benefit liability, which comprise actuarial gains and losses is recognised immediately in OCI. The Bank determines the interest expense on the defined benefit liability for the period by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the annual period to the defined benefit liability at the period end, taking into account any changes in the defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contributions and benefit payments. Net interest expense and other expenses related to defined benefit plans are recognised in personnel expenses in profit or loss.

When the benefits of a plan are changed or when a plan is curtailed, the resulting change in benefits that relate to past service or the gain or loss on curtailment is recognised immediately in profit or loss. The Bank recognises gains and losses on the settlement of a defined benefit plan when the settlement occurs.

— *Provident fund*

The provident fund is a defined contribution plan under which the Bank pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. The Bank's obligations to the defined contribution scheme are reported in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year due. The Bank has no legal or constructive obligations to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods. The Bank has a Provident Fund Scheme for all employees who have completed their probation period with the Bank. The Bank contribute 5% of their basic salary to the Fund. Obligations under the plan are limited to the relevant contributions which have been recognised in the financial statements.

— *National Social Security & Welfare Corporation (NASSCORP)*

Under the national pension scheme, the Bank contributes 6% of employees' basic salary to the National Social Security & Welfare Corporation for employee pensions. The Bank's obligation is limited to the relevant contributions, which have been recognised in the financial statements. The pension liabilities and obligations, however, rest with NASSCORP.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.9.2 Short-term employment benefits

Short-term employee benefits are expensed as the related service is provided. A liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid if the Bank has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

3.10 Share capital

The Bank classifies capital and equity instruments in accordance with the contractual terms of the instrument. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of ordinary shares, net of any tax effects is recognised as a deduction from equity.

3.11 Provisions

(a) General

Provisions, including any restructuring, redundancy and legal claims are recognized: when CBL has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events; it is more likely than not that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation; and the amount can be reliably estimated.

Where there are several similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations. A provision is recognized even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligation may be small. Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle obligations using a rate that reflects a current market assessment of the time value of money and the risks specific to such obligation. The unwinding of the discount is recognized as finance cost.

(b) Leave pay accrual

Leave pay accrual at the reporting date represents the present obligation to employees as a result of employee's services provided up to the reporting date. The accrual is measured as the amount that is expected to be paid as a result of the leave entitlement that has accumulated at the reporting date.

3.12 Deferred currency cost

Costs related to printing currency are amortized when the notes are put into circulation using the weighted average method. Unissued Liberian Dollar notes at the reporting date are treated as inventory items at the cost of production. All other costs relating to the production of such notes are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

3.13 Currency in circulation

Currency issued by CBL represents claims on the Central Bank in favor of the holder. The liability in respect of notes and coins in issue at the reporting date is stated at the nominal value of the currency. Liberian dollar notes held by CBL that are not in circulation are not liabilities or assets of the Bank

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.14 Leases

At inception of a contract, the Bank assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

This policy is applied to contracts entered into (or changed) on or after 1 January 2019

Bank acting as a lessee

At commencement or on modification of a contract that contains a lease component, the Bank allocates consideration in the contract to each lease component on the basis of its relative standalone price. However, for leases of branches and residential premises, the Bank has elected not to separate non-lease components and accounts for the lease and non-lease components as a single lease component.

The Bank recognises a right of use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date. The right of use asset is initially measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, plus any initial direct costs incurred and an estimate of costs to dismantle and remove any improvements made to branches or office premises.

The right of use asset is subsequently depreciated using the straight-line method from the commencement date to the end of the lease term. In addition, the right of use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain remeasurements of the lease liability.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, and the Bank's incremental borrowing rate. Generally, the Bank uses its incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate.

The Bank determines its incremental borrowing rate by analysing its borrowings from various external sources and makes certain adjustments to reflect the terms of the lease and type of asset leased.

3.14 Leases

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise the following:

- fixed payments, including in substance fixed payments.
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date.
- amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee; and
- the exercise price under a purchase option that the Bank is reasonably certain to exercise, lease payments in an optional renewal period if the Bank is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, and penalties for early termination of a lease unless the Bank is reasonably certain not to terminate early.

The lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. It is remeasured when there is a change in future lease payments arising from a change in an index or rate, if there is a change in the Bank's estimate of the amount expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee, if the Bank changes its assessment of whether it will exercise a purchase, extension, or termination option or if there is a revised in substance fixed lease payment.

When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right of use asset or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right of use asset has been reduced to zero.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.14 Leases (continued)

The Bank presents right of use assets in 'property, machinery and equipment' and lease liabilities in 'other liabilities' in the statement of financial position.

Short term leases and leases of low value assets

The Bank has elected not to recognise right of use assets and lease liabilities for leases of low value assets and short-term leases. The Bank recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

3.15 Leasehold improvements

This involves costs incurred in refurbishing various properties leased by CBL. Certain lease agreements specify options for renewal (capital leases). Lease agreements normally cover periods of 1-10 years. Costs associated with leases include initial rental repayments, cost of improvements, renovations, and other costs incurred in preparing the property for use. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the lives of the related or underlying leases.

3.16 Allocation of net profits

Profits of CBL are stated according to Part XI; Section 52 of the amended CBL Act of 2020, subject to subsection (1), the net profit of the Central Bank in each year is reflected as follows:

1. increase the amount of capital if it becomes below the minimum authorized capital.
2. redeem securities used to fill up share capital.
3. increase general reserves up to at least 10 percent of monetary liabilities; and
4. any residual distributable earning remaining after the preceding allocation, if any, shall be distributed to the National Treasury within four months after the end of the financial year as revenue for the general budget of the Government.

The aggregate amount of the monetary liabilities of the Central Bank shall be at any time the sum of;

- (i) all outstanding banknotes, coins and debts securities issued by the Central Bank; and
- (ii) the credit balances of all accounts maintained on the books of the Central Bank by account holders.

3.17 Allocation of net losses

If the Central Bank incurs net losses for any financial year, the loss shall be first charged to the general reserve account, and subsequently applied against the paid-up capital account. If the net loss is comprised net unrealized revaluation losses, the amount of net unrealized revaluation losses shall be allocated to the revaluation reserve account until such time as these revaluation reserve accounts have a zero balance, after which these losses shall be covered by the current year's profit, then by the general reserve account and subsequently by the paid-up capital account.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.18 Contingent Liabilities

Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is a possible obligation that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Bank, or a present obligation that arises from past events but is not recognised because it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability. If the likelihood of an outflow of resources is remote, the possible obligation is neither a provision nor a contingent liability and no disclosure is made.

3.19 Financial guarantees and loan commitments

Financial guarantee contracts are contracts that require the Bank to make specified payments to reimburse the holder for a loss it incurs because a specified debtor fails to make payments when due, in accordance with the terms of a debt instrument. Loan commitments are firm commitments to provide credit under pre-specified terms and conditions.

Liabilities arising from financial guarantees or commitments to provide a loan at below-market interest rates are initially recognized at fair value and amortized over the life of the guarantee or commitment. The liability is subsequently carried at the higher of the amortized amount and the present value of any expected payments to settle the liability when payment becomes probable. Financial guarantees and commitments to provide a loan at below-market rates are included within other liabilities.

3.20 Application of new and revised standards, amendments and interpretations

Impact of the initial application of other new and amended IFRS Standards that are effective for the current year.

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 January 2022 and have not been applied in preparing these financial statements. Those which may be relevant to the Bank are set out below.

New and revised IFRS Standards in issue but not yet effective

At the date of authorization of these financial statements, the Bank has not applied the following new and revised IFRS Standards that have been issued but are not yet effective and had not yet been adopted:

Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Noncurrent

The amendments to IAS 1 affect only the presentation of liabilities as current or non-current in the statement of financial position and not the amount or timing of recognition of any asset, liability, income or expenses, or the information disclosed about those items.

The amendments clarify that the classification of liabilities as current or non-current is based on rights that are in existence at the end of the reporting period, specify that classification is unaffected by expectations about whether an entity will exercise its right to defer settlement of a liability, explain that rights are in existence if covenants are complied with at the end of the reporting period, and introduce a definition of ‘settlement’ to make clear that settlement refers to the transfer to the counterparty of cash, equity instruments, other assets or services.

The amendments are applied retrospectively for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023, with early application permitted.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

Amendments to IFRS 3 Business Combinations – Reference to the Conceptual Framework

The amendments update IFRS 3 so that it refers to the 2018 Conceptual Framework instead of the 1989 Framework. They also add to IFRS 3 a requirement that, for obligations within the scope of IAS 37, an acquirer applies IAS 37 to determine whether at the acquisition date a present obligation exists as a result of past events. For a levy that would be within the scope of IFRIC 21 Levies, the acquirer applies IFRIC 21 to determine whether the obligating event that gives rise to a liability to pay the levy has occurred by the acquisition date.

Finally, the amendments add an explicit statement that an acquirer does not recognise contingent assets acquired in a business combination.

The amendments are effective for business combinations for which the date of acquisition is on or after the beginning of the first annual period beginning on or after 1 January 2022. Early application is permitted if an entity also applies all other updated references (published together with the updated Conceptual Framework) at the same time or earlier.

Amendments to IAS 16 – Property, Plant and Equipment—Proceeds before Intended Use

The amendments prohibit deducting from the cost of an item of property, plant and equipment any proceeds from selling items produced before that asset is available for use, i.e., proceeds while bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Consequently, an entity recognises such sales proceeds and related costs in profit or loss. The entity measures the cost of those items in accordance with IAS 2 Inventories.

The amendments also clarify the meaning of ‘testing whether an asset is functioning properly’. IAS 16 now specifies this as assessing whether the technical and physical performance of the asset is such that it is capable of being used in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes.

If not presented separately in the statement of comprehensive income, the financial statements shall disclose the amounts of proceeds and cost included in profit or loss that relate to items produced that are not an output of the entity’s ordinary activities, and which line item(s) in the statement of comprehensive income include(s) such proceeds and cost.

The amendments are applied retrospectively, but only to items of property, plant and equipment that are brought to the location and condition necessary for them to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management on or after the beginning of the earliest period presented in the financial statements in which the entity first applies the amendments.

The entity shall recognise the cumulative effect of initially applying the amendments as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings (or other component of equity, as appropriate) at the beginning of that earliest period presented.

The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022, with early application permitted.

Amendments to IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets – Onerous Contracts—Cost of Fulfilling a Contract

The amendments specify that the ‘cost of fulfilling’ a contract comprises the ‘costs that relate directly to the contract’. Costs that relate directly to a contract consist of both the incremental costs of fulfilling that contract (examples would be direct labour or materials) and an allocation of other costs that relate directly to fulfilling contracts (an example would be the allocation of the depreciation charge for an item of property, plant and equipment used in fulfilling the contract).

The amendments apply to contracts for which the entity has not yet fulfilled all its obligations at the beginning of the annual reporting period in which the entity first applies the amendments. Comparatives are not restated.

Instead, the entity shall recognise the cumulative effect of initially applying the amendments as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings or other component of equity, as appropriate, at the date of initial application.

The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022, with early application permitted.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Annual Improvements to IFRS Standards 2018–2020 — Amendments to IFRS 1 First-time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards, IFRS 9 Financial Instruments, IFRS 16 Leases, and IAS Agriculture

The *Annual Improvements* include amendments to four Standards.

IFRS 1 First-time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards

The amendment provides additional relief to a subsidiary which becomes a first-time adopter later than its parent in respect of accounting for cumulative translation differences. As a result of the amendment, a subsidiary that uses the exemption in IFRS 1:D16(a) can now also elect to measure cumulative translation differences for all foreign operations at the carrying amount that would be included in the parent's consolidated financial statements, based on the parent's date of transition to IFRS Standards, if no adjustments were made for consolidation procedures and for the effects of the business combination in which the parent acquired the subsidiary. A similar election is available to an associate or joint venture that uses the exemption in IFRS 1: D16(a).

The amendment is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022, with early application permitted.

IFRS 9 Financial Instruments

The amendment clarifies that in applying the '10 per cent' test to assess whether to derecognise a financial liability, an entity includes only fees paid or received between the entity (the borrower) and the lender, including fees paid or received by either the entity or the lender on the other's behalf.

The amendment is applied prospectively to modifications and exchanges that occur on or after the date the entity first applies the amendment.

The amendment is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022, with early application permitted.

IFRS 16 Leases

The amendment removes the illustration of the reimbursement of leasehold improvements.

As the amendment to IFRS 16 only regards an illustrative example, no effective date is stated.

The amendment is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022, with early application permitted.

IAS 41 Agriculture

The amendment removes the requirement in IAS 41 for entities to exclude cash flows for taxation when measuring fair value. This aligns the fair value measurement in IAS 41 with the requirements of IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement to use internally consistent cash flows and discount rates and enables preparers to determine whether to use pretax or post-tax cash flows and discount rates for the most appropriate fair value measurement.

The amendment is applied prospectively, i.e., for fair value measurements on or after the date an entity initially applies the amendment.

The amendment is effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022, with earlier application permitted.

Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements and IFRS Practice Statement 2 Making Materiality Judgements—Disclosure of Accounting Policies

The amendments change the requirements in IAS 1 with regard to disclosure of accounting policies. The amendments replace all instances of the term 'significant accounting policies' with 'material accounting policy information'. Accounting policy information is material if, when considered together with other information included in an entity's financial statements, it can reasonably be expected to influence decisions that the primary users of general-purpose financial statements make on the basis of those financial statements.

The supporting paragraphs in IAS 1 are also amended to clarify that accounting policy information that relates to immaterial transactions, other events or conditions is immaterial and need not be disclosed.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements and IFRS Practice Statement 2 Making

Materiality Judgements—Disclosure of Accounting Policies(continued)

Accounting policy information may be material because of the nature of the related transactions, other events or conditions, even if the amounts are immaterial. However, not all accounting policy information relating to material transactions, other events or conditions is itself material. The Board has also developed guidance and examples to explain and demonstrate the application of the ‘four-step materiality process’ described in IFRS Practice Statement 2.

The amendments to IAS 1 are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023, with earlier application permitted and are applied prospectively. The amendments to IFRS Practice Statement 2 do not contain an effective date or transition requirements.

Amendments to IAS 8 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors—Definition of Accounting Estimates

The amendments replace the definition of a change in accounting estimates with a definition of accounting estimates. Under the new definition, accounting estimates are “monetary amounts in financial statements that are subject to measurement uncertainty”.

The definition of a change in accounting estimates was deleted. However, the Board retained the concept of changes in accounting estimates in the Standard with the following clarifications:

- A change in accounting estimate that results from new information or new developments is not the correction of an error.
- The effects of a change in an input or a measurement technique used to develop an accounting estimate are changes in accounting estimates if they do not result from the correction of prior period errors.

The Board added two examples (Examples 4-5) to the Guidance on implementing IAS 8, which accompanies the Standard. The Board has deleted one example (Example 3) as it could cause confusion in light of the amendments.

The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023 to changes in accounting policies and changes in accounting estimates that occur on or after the beginning of that period, with earlier application permitted.

Amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes—Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction

The amendments introduce a further exception from the initial recognition exemption. Under the amendments, an entity does not apply the initial recognition exemption for transactions that give rise to equal taxable and deductible temporary differences.

Depending on the applicable tax law, equal taxable and deductible temporary differences may arise on initial recognition of an asset and liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and affects neither accounting nor taxable profit. For example, this may arise upon recognition of a lease liability and the corresponding right-of-use asset applying IFRS 16 at the commencement date of a lease. Following the amendments to IAS 12, an entity is required to recognise the related deferred tax asset and liability, with the recognition of any deferred tax asset being subject to the recoverability criteria in IAS 12.

The Board also adds an illustrative example to IAS 12 that explains how the amendments are applied. The amendments apply to transactions that occur on or after the beginning of the earliest comparative period presented. In addition, at the beginning of the earliest comparative period an entity recognises:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

Amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes—Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction (continued)

A deferred tax asset (to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the deductible temporary difference can be utilised) and a deferred tax liability for all deductible and taxable temporary differences associated with:

- Right-of-use assets and lease liabilities.
- Decommissioning, restoration and similar liabilities and the corresponding amounts recognised as part of the cost of the related asset.
- The cumulative effect of initially applying the amendments as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings (or other component of equity, as appropriate) at that date.

The amendments are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023, with earlier application permitted.

4. Financial risk management

The Central Bank's activities are exposed to financial risks. The Central Bank's aim is therefore to achieve an appropriate balance between risk and reward intended to minimize potential adverse effects on the Central Bank's financial performance, considering its role in policy-oriented activities. The Central Bank's risk management policies are designed to identify and analyze these risks, to set appropriate risk limits and controls, and to monitor the risks and adherence to limits by means of reliable and up-to-date information systems. The most important types of risks are credit risk, liquidity risk, and market risk. Market risks include foreign exchange risk and interest rate risk.

4.1. Credit risk

The Bank takes on exposure to credit risk, which is the risk that a counterparty will cause a financial loss to the Bank by failing to discharge an obligation. Credit risk arises from loans and advances, cash and cash equivalents and deposits with banks and financial institutions, staff loans and other receivables. The Bank is also exposed to other credit risks arising from investment securities. Exposure to the risk of loss from credit arises principally in lending activities.

4.1.1. Credit risk measurement

Loans and advances

In measuring credit risk related to loans and advances to GOL and commercial banks at a counterparty level, the Bank considers the 'probability of default' by the GOL or counterparty on its contractual obligations. Exposure at default is based on the amount the Bank expects to be owed at the time of default.

Balance with central banks and operating banks

For banks and financial institutions, only reputable financial institutions are accepted based on the Bank's internal policy. The treasury department manages the credit risk exposure, by assessing the counterparties' performances.

Loan Extension and Availability Facility (LEAF)

For the Loan Extension and Availability Facility, only microfinance institutions, credit unions and village savings and loan associations were accepted based on the program requirements and the Microfinance unit manages the credit risk exposure, by on-site monitoring and participating in activities of the mentioned groups including periodic distribution of funds at share-out programs. This facility was suspended in 2016.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

4 Financial risk management (continued)

4.1.1. Credit risk measurement (continued)

Investment securities

Investments are held with the Government of Liberia and Africa Export Import Bank. The treasury department manages the credit risk exposure by assessing the counterparties' performance.

Other assets

For accounts receivable, the Finance Department assesses the credit worthiness of potential customers, taking into account its financial position, past experience and other factors. The bank does not grade the credit quality of receivables.

4.1.2. Impairment and provisioning policy

A financial asset is 'credit-impaired' when one or more events that have a detrimental impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset have occurred.

Evidence that a financial asset is credit-impaired includes the following observable data:

- significant financial difficulty of the borrower or issuer.
- a breach of contract such as a default or past due event.
- the restructuring of a loan or advance by the Bank on terms that the Bank would not consider otherwise; or
- it is becoming probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganization.

4.1.3. Maximum exposure to credit risk before collateral held or other credit enhancements.

Credit risk exposures relating to financial assets was as follows.

Table 5.1

		2022	% of financial assets	2021	% of financial assets
Cash and balances with central banks	I	40,346,531	15.10	25,482,638	10.13
Cash and balances with commercial banks	I	1,722,557	0.64	1,690,466	0.66
Loans and advances to operating banks	I	187,278	0.07	114,859	0.05
Investment security	I	2,588,322	0.97	4,735,788	1.88
Due from IMF	I	116,352,210	43.55	130,808,527	51.99
Staff loans	I	447,458	0.17	524,769	0.21
Other assets	I	1,545,762	0.58	1,270,573	0.51
Loan and advances to GOL	I	101,147,085	37.86	84,249,104	33.49
Loans and advances to operating banks	II	2,740,031	1.03	2,721,886	1.08
Staff loans	II	104,762	0.04	-	-
		267,181,996	100	251,598,610	100
Financial guarantee contracts	I	27,137,657		25,438,455	
At 31 December		294,319,653		277,037,065	

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4.1.3. Maximum exposure to credit risk before collateral held or other credit enhancements.

Table 5.1 (continued)

Category	2022	2021
Group I	291,474,860	274,315,179
Group II	2,844,793	2,721,886
Total	294,319,653	277,037,065

Group I

These are existing customers whose balances are neither past due nor impaired. Counterparties in this group include other central banks, commercial banks.

Group II

These are existing customers with some balances past due and individually impaired. This group is mainly composed of loans and advances to the Government of Liberia loans and advances to some Operating Banks, loans advances to Non-Bank financial institutions and some staff loans.

The above table 5.1 represents a worst-case scenario of credit risk exposure to the Bank at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 without taking account of any collateral held or other credit enhancements attached. The exposures set out above are based on carrying amounts as reported in the statement of financial position.

Management is confident in its ability to continue and to minimize the losses arising from its exposure to credit risk resulting from loans and advances to the GOL and amounts due from the non-bank financial institutions.

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Analysis of credit quality

The following table sets out information about the credit quality of financial assets measured at amortised cost. Unless specifically indicated, for financial assets, the amounts in the table represent gross carrying amounts. For financial guaranteed contracts, the amounts in the table represent the amounts committed or guaranteed, respectively.

	2022				2021			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
Loans and advances to GOL								
Group I	101,547,535	-	-	101,547,535	85,020,315	-	-	85,020,315
Group II	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross	101,547,535	-	-	101,547,535	85,020,315	-	-	85,020,315
Less: allowance for impairment	(400,450)	-	-	(400,450)	(771,211)	-	-	(771,211)
Carrying amount	101,147,085	-	-	101,147,085	84,249,104	-	-	84,249,104
Loans and advances to staff								
Group I	605,504	-	-	724,787	545,023	-	-	545,023
Group II	-	-	104,762	104,762	-	-	96,973	96,973
Gross	605,504	-	104,762	710,266	545,023	-	96,973	641,996
Less: allowance for impairment	(54,300)	-	(103,746)	(158,046)	(20,254)	-	(96,973)	(117,227)
Carrying amount	551,204	-	1,016	552,220	524,769	-	-	524,769
Balances with Central bank and commercial bank								
Group I	42,069,088	-	-	42,069,088	27,173,104	-	-	27,173,104
Group II	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross	42,069,088	-	-	42,069,088	27,173,104	-	-	27,173,104
Less: allowance for impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying amount	42,069,088	-	-	42,069,088	27,173,104	-	-	27,173,104
Loans and advances to operating banks								
Group I	2,990,656	-	-	2,990,655	118,261	2,972,094	-	3,090,355
Group II	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross	2,990,656	-	-	2,990,655	118,261	2,972,094	-	3,090,355
Less: allowance for impairment	(63,347)	-	-	(63,346)	(3,402)	(250,208)	-	(253,610)
Carrying amount	2,927,309	-	-	2,927,309	114,859	2,721,886	-	2,836,745

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	2022				2021			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
Loans and advances to non-banking financial institutions								
Group I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Group II	-	-	-	-	-	-	676,310	676,310
Gross	-	-	-	-	-	-	676,310	676,310
Less: allowance for impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-	(676,310)	(676,310)
Carrying amount	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other assets								
Group I	1,545,762	-	-	1,545,762	1,270,573	-	-	1,270,573
Group II	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross	1,545,762	-	-	1,545,762	1,270,573	-	-	1,270,573
Less: allowance for impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying amount	1,545,762	-	-	1,545,762	1,270,573	-	-	1,270,573
Deposit with IMF								
Group I	116,352,793	-	-	116,352,793	130,820,032	-	-	130,820,032
Group II	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross	116,352,793	-	-	116,352,793	130,820,032	-	-	130,820,032
Less: allowance for impairment	(583)	-	-	(583)	(11,505)	-	-	(11,505)
Carrying amount	116,352,210	-	-	116,352,210	130,808,527	-	-	130,808,527
Investment Securities								
Group I	2,597,121	-	-	2,597,121	4,738,639	-	-	4,738,639
Group II	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross	2,597,121	-	-	2,597,121	4,738,639	-	-	4,738,639
Less: allowance for impairment	(8,799)	-	-	(8,799)	(2,851)	-	-	(2,851)
Carrying amount	2,588,322	-	-	2,588,322	4,735,788	-	-	4,735,788
Financial guarantee								
Group I	27,137,657	-	-	27,137,657	25,438,455	-	-	25,438,455
Group II	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross	27,137,657	-	-	27,137,657	25,438,455	-	-	25,438,455
Loss allowance	(649,794)	-	-	(649,794)	(271,822)	-	-	(271,822)
Carrying amount	26,487,863	-	-	26,487,863	25,710,277	-	-	25,710,277

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4.1.4. Analysis of financial assets

The table below shows the gross balances of financial assets analysed by type and performance less impairment:

December 31, 2022

	Loans and advances to GOL	Loans and advances to staff	Balances with Central bank & Commercial banks	Loans and advances to operating banks	Loans and advances to non-banking financial institutions	Investment securities	Deposit with IMF	Other assets	Total
Neither past due nor impaired	102,261,700	724,787	42,069,088	2,990,655	-	2,597,121	116,352,793	1,545,762	268,827,742
Past due but not impaired	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Individually Impaired	-	104,762	-	-	-	-	-	-	104,762
Gross	102,261,700	829,549	42,069,088	2,990,655	-	2,597,121	116,352,793	1,545,762	268,932,503
Less: allowance for impairment	(1,114,615)	(277,329)	-	(63,346)	-	(8,799)	(583)	-	(1,464,676)
Carrying value	101,147,085	552,220	42,069,088	2,927,309	-	2,588,322	116,352,210	1,545,762	267,467,830

December 31, 2021

Neither past due nor impaired	85,020,315	545,023	27,173,104	3,090,355	-	4,738,639	130,820,032	1,270,573	252,658,041
Past due but not impaired	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Individually impaired	-	96,973	-	-	676,310	-	-	-	773,283
Gross value	85,020,315	641,996	27,173,104	3,090,355	676,310	4,738,639	130,820,032	1,270,573	253,431,324
Less: allowance for impairment	(771,211)	(117,227)	-	(253,610)	(676,310)	(2,851)	(11,505)	-	(1,832,715)
Carrying value	84,249,104	524,769	27,173,104	2,836,745	-	4,735,788	130,808,527	1,270,573	251,598,609

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(a) Assets individually impaired

The individually impaired assets before taking into consideration the cash flows from collateral held has been disclosed in the table below:

	2022	2021
Loan and advances to non-bank financial institutions	-	676,310
Loans and advances to staff	104,762	96,973
	104,762	773,283

(b) Collateral held and other credit enhancements, and their financial effect

The Bank holds collateral and other credit enhancements against certain types of its credit exposures. The table below sets out the principal types of collateral held against different types of financial assets.

Type of exposure	Percentage of exposure that is subject to collateral requirement		Principal type of collateral held
	2022	2021	
Loan and advances to commercial banks	17.32%	17.32%	Treasury bills
Loan and advances to non-bank financial institutions	0%	0%	
Loan and advances to Government of Liberia	0%	0%	
Staff loans	100%	100%	Legal mortgage over residential property; charge over vehicle; provident fund

Collateral on impaired exposures

The Bank employs a range of policies and practices to mitigate credit risk. The most traditional of these is taking of security for funds advanced to operating banks in Liberia as well as funds advanced to individual staff of the bank. In the case of operating banks collateral is not normally held for loans and advances, except when securities are held as part of reverse repurchase and securities borrowing activity, such as demanding treasury bills as collateral for Emergency Liquidity Assistance (ELA). When funds are advanced to individual staff of the Central Bank of Liberia, the Bank uses the provident fund of the individual staff or legal mortgage over residential property, and or charge over vehicle as collateral. Collateral is not usually held against investment securities, loans and advances to Government of Liberia and loans and advances to non-bank financial institutions and no such collateral were held at 31 December 2022.

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The Central Bank of Liberia closely monitors collateral held for financial assets considered to be credit-impaired, as it becomes more likely that the bank will take possession of collateral to mitigate potential credit losses. Financial assets that are credit impaired and the related collateral in order to mitigate potential losses are shown below:

	Gross exposure	Impairment allowance	Carrying amount	Fair value of collateral held
2022				
Individually impaired				
Staff loans	104,762	103,746	-	-
Past due but not impaired	-	-	-	-
Staff loans	-	-	-	-
Loans and advances to operating banks	-	-	-	-
	104,762	103,746	-	-
2021				
Individually impaired				
Staff loans	96,973	96,973	-	-
Past due but not impaired	-	-	-	-
Loans and advances to operating banks	-	-	-	-
Staff loans	-	-	-	-
	96,973	96,973	-	-

(c) Loans and advances renegotiated

Restructuring activities include extended payment arrangements, approved external management plans, modification and deferral of payments. Restructuring policies and practices are based on indicators or criteria which, in the judgement of management, indicate payment will most likely continue.

(d) Repossessed collateral

No collateral was repossessed by the bank in the year (2021: Nil).

(e) Amounts arising from ECL

Inputs, assumptions, and techniques used for estimating impairment

Significant increase in credit risk

When determining whether the risk of default on a financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Bank considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis, based on the Bank's historical experience and expert credit assessment and including forward-looking information.

The objective of the assessment is to identify whether a significant increase in credit risk has occurred for an exposure by comparing:

- the remaining lifetime probability of default (PD) as at the reporting date; with
- the remaining lifetime PD for this point in time that was estimated at the time of initial recognition of the exposure (adjusted where relevant for changes in prepayment expectations).

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The Bank uses three criteria for determining whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk:

- quantitative test based on movement in probability of default (PD);
- qualitative indicators; and
- a backstop of 30 days past due.

Generating the term structure of PD

The Bank employs statistical models to analyse the data collected and generate estimates of the remaining lifetime PD of exposures and how these are expected to change as a result of the passage of time.

Determining whether credit risk has increased significantly

The Bank assesses whether credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition at each reporting date. Determining whether an increase in credit risk is significant depends on the characteristics of the financial instrument and the borrower. What is considered significant differs for different types of lending.

As a general indicator, credit risk of a particular exposure is deemed to have increased significantly since initial recognition if, based the facility is past due by 30 days.

The credit risk may also be deemed to have increased significantly since initial recognition based on qualitative factors linked to the Bank's credit risk management processes that may not otherwise be fully reflected in its quantitative analysis on a timely basis. As a backstop, the Bank considers that a significant increase in credit risk occurs no later than when an asset is more than 30 days past due. Days past due are determined by counting the number of days since the earliest elapsed due date in respect of which full payment has not been received. Due dates are determined without considering any grace period that might be available to the borrower.

If there is evidence that there is no longer a significant increase in credit risk relative to initial recognition, then the loss allowance on an instrument return to being measured as 12-month ECL. Some qualitative indicators of an increase in credit risk, such as delinquency or forbearance, may be indicative of an increased risk of default that persists after the indicator itself has ceased to exist. In these cases, the Bank determines a probation period during which the financial asset is required to demonstrate good behaviour to provide evidence that its credit risk has declined sufficiently. When contractual terms of a loan have been modified, evidence that the criteria for recognising lifetime ECL are no longer met includes a history of up-to-date payment performance against the modified contractual terms. The Bank monitors the effectiveness of the criteria used to identify significant increases in credit risk by regular reviews to confirm that:

- the criteria are capable of identifying significant increases in credit risk before an exposure is in default.
- the criteria do not align with the point in time when an asset becomes 30 days past due.
- the average time between the identification of a significant increase in credit risk and default appears reasonable.
- exposures are not generally transferred directly from 12-month ECL measurement to credit-impaired; and
- there is no unwarranted volatility in loss allowance from transfers between 12-month PD (Stage 1) and lifetime PD (Stage 2).

Definition of default

The Bank considers a financial asset to be in default when:

- the borrower is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Bank in full, without recourse by the Bank to actions such as realising security (if any is held);
- the borrower is more than 90 days past due on any material credit obligation to the Bank; or
- it is becoming probable that the borrower will restructure the asset as a result of bankruptcy due to the borrower's inability to pay its credit obligations.

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Definition of default (continued)

In assessing whether a borrower is in default, the Bank considers indicators that are:

qualitative: e.g., breaches of covenant.

quantitative: e.g., overdue status and non-payment on another obligation of the same issuer to the Bank; and based on data developed internally and obtained from external sources.

Inputs into the assessment of whether a financial instrument is in default and their significance may vary over time to reflect changes in circumstances.

Incorporation of forward-looking information

The Bank incorporates forward-looking information into both the assessment of whether the credit risk of an instrument has increased significantly since its initial recognition and the measurement of ECL. The Bank formulates three economic scenarios: a base case, which is the median scenario assigned a 60% probability of occurring, a 25% probability to the worst-case scenario and the best scenarios, assigned a 15% probability of occurring.

The Bank has identified and documented key drivers of credit risk and credit losses for each portfolio of financial instruments and, using an analysis of historical data, has estimated relationships between macro-economic variables and credit risk and credit losses.

The key drivers for credit risk are GDP growth, CPI and Public debts.

Modified financial assets

The contractual terms of a loan may be modified for a number of reasons, including changing market conditions, customer retention and other factors not related to a current or potential credit deterioration of the customer. An existing loan whose terms have been modified may be derecognised and the renegotiated loan recognised as a new loan at fair value in accordance with the accounting policy.

When the terms of a financial asset are modified and the modification does not result in derecognition, the determination of whether the asset's credit risk has increased significantly reflects comparison of:

its remaining lifetime PD at the reporting date based on the modified terms; with

the remaining lifetime PD estimated based on data on initial recognition and the original contractual terms.

When modification results in derecognition, a new loan is recognised and allocated to Stage 1 (assuming it is not credit-impaired at that time).

The Bank renegotiates loans to commercial and non-banking financial institutions in financial difficulties to maximise collection opportunities and minimise the risk of default.

Generally, forbearance is a qualitative indicator of a significant increase in credit risk and an expectation of forbearance may constitute evidence that an exposure is credit-impaired. A customer needs to demonstrate consistently good payment behaviour over a period of time before the exposure is no longer considered to be credit-impaired/in default or the PD is considered to have decreased such that the loss allowance reverts to being measured at an amount equal to Stage 1.

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Measurement of ECL

The key inputs into the measurement of ECL are the term structure of the following variables:

- probability of default (PD);
- loss given default (LGD); and
- exposure at default (EAD).

ECL for exposures in Stage 1 is calculated by multiplying the 12-month PD by LGD and EAD. Lifetime ECL is calculated by multiplying the lifetime PD by LGD and EAD.

The methodology of estimating PDs is discussed above under the heading ‘Generating the term structure of PD’.

LGD is the magnitude of the likely loss if there is a default. The Bank estimates LGD parameters based on the history of recovery rates of claims against defaulted counterparties. The LGD models consider the structure, collateral, seniority of the claim, counterparty industry and recovery costs of any collateral that is integral to the financial asset.

EAD represents the expected exposure in the event of a default. The Bank derives the EAD from the current exposure to the counterparty and potential changes to the current amount allowed under the contract and arising from amortisation. The EAD of a financial asset is its gross carrying amount at the time of default. For lending commitments, the EADs are potential future amounts that may be drawn under the contract, which are estimated based on historical observations and forward-looking forecasts. For financial guarantees, the EAD represents the amount of the guaranteed exposure when the financial guarantee becomes payable. For some financial assets, EAD is determined by modelling the range of possible exposure outcomes at various points in time using scenario and statistical techniques.

As described above, and subject to using a maximum of a 12-month PD for Stage 1 financial assets, the Bank measures ECL considering the risk of default over the maximum contractual period (including any borrower’s extension options) over which it is exposed to credit risk, even if, for credit risk management purposes, the Bank considers a longer period. The maximum contractual period extends to the date at which the Bank has the right to require repayment of an advance or terminate a loan commitment or guarantee.

Amounts arising from expected credit losses (ECL)

The following tables show reconciliations from the opening to the closing balance of the loss allowance by class of financial instrument.

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia at amortised cost				
2022				
Balance at 1 January	771,211	-	-	771,211
Transfer to Stage 3	-	-	-	-
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	277,696	-	-	277,696
De-recognition of financial asset	-	-	-	-
Translational difference	65,708	-	-	65,708
Balance at 31 December	1,114,615	-	-	1,114,615

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	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia at amortised cost				
2021				
Balance at 1 January	769,571	-	-	769,571
Transfer to Stage 3	-	-	-	-
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	102,381	-	-	102,381
De-recognition of financial asset	-	-	-	-
Translational difference	(100,741)	-	-	(100,741)
Balance at 31 December	771,211	-	-	771,211
Loans and advances to operating banks at amortised cost				
2022				
Balance at 1 January	3,402	250,208	-	253,610
Transfer to Stage 2	-	(250,208)	-	(250,208)
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	192,101	-	-	192,101
New financial assets introduced	-	-	-	-
Financial assets de-recognised	-	-	-	-
Translational difference	(132,158)	-	-	(132,158)
Balance at 31 December	63,345	-	-	63,345
2021				
Balance at 1 January	143,321	-	150,571	293,892
Transfer to Stage 2	(121,789)	272,360	(150,571)	-
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	-	10,375	-	10,375
New financial assets introduced	3,970	-	-	3,970
Financial assets de-recognised	(21,533)	-	-	(21,533)
Translational difference	(567)	(32,527)	-	(33,094)
Balance at 31 December	3,402	250,208	-	253,610
Loans and advances to non-banking financial institutions at amortised cost				
2022				
Balance at 1 January	-	-	-	-
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	-	-	-	-
Translational difference	-	-	-	-
Balance at 31 December	-	-	-	-
2021				
Balance at 1 January	-	-	379,383	379,383
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	-	-	387,314	387,314
Translational difference	-	-	(90,387)	(90,387)
Balance at 31 December	-	-	676,310	676,310

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	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
Staff loans				
2022				
Balance at 1 January	20,254	-	96,973	117,227
Transfer to stage 3	-	-	-	-
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	11,211	-	21,419	32,630
New financial assets originated	-	-	-	-
De-recognition of financial asset	-	-	-	-
Translational difference	22,835	-	(14,646)	8,189
Balance at 31 December	54,300	-	103,746	158,046

Staff loans				
2021				
Balance at 1 January	2,939	-	93,614	96,553
Transfer to stage 3	-	-	-	-
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	11,365	-	16,047	27,412
New financial assets originated	8,715	-	-	8,715
De-recognition of financial asset	-	-	-	-
Translational difference	(2,765)	-	(12,688)	(15,453)
Balance at 31 December	20,254	-	96,973	117,227

Deposit with International Monetary Fund

2022				
Balance at 1 January	11,505	-	-	11,505
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	10,922	-	-	10,922
Translational difference	(21,844)	-	-	(21,844)
Balance at 31 December	583	-	-	583

Deposit with International Monetary Fund

2021				
Balance at 1 January	12,903	-	-	12,903
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	95	-	-	95
Translational difference	(1,493)	-	-	(1,493)
Balance at 31 December	11,505	-	-	11,505

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	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
Investment securities				
2022				
Balance at 1 January	2,852	-	-	2,852
New financial assets introduced	-	-	-	-
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	5,654	-	-	5,654
Translational difference	293	-	-	293
Balance at 31 December	8,799	-	-	8,799

Investment securities				
2021				
Balance at 1 January	2,147	-	-	2,147
New financial assets introduced	107	-	-	107
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	975	-	-	975
Translational difference	(378)	-	-	(378)
Balance at 31 December	2,851	-	-	2,851

**Letters of credit, undrawn commitments
and guarantees**

2022				
Balance at 1 January	271,822	-	-	271,822
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	351,979	-	-	351,979
New financial assets originated	-	-	-	-
Translational difference	25,993	-	-	25,993
Balance at 31 December	649,794	-	-	649,794

2021				
Balance at 1 January	202,946	-	-	202,946
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	115,758	-	-	115,758
New financial assets originated	-	-	-	-
Translational difference	(46,882)	-	-	(46,882)
Balance at 31 December	271,822	-	-	271,822

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(iii) Amounts arising from expected credit losses (ECL) (continued)

The following table provides a reconciliation between:

- amounts shown in the above tables reconciling opening and closing balances of loss allowance per class of financial instruments; and
- the impairment losses on financial instruments' line item in the statement of comprehensive income.

	Loans and advances to GOL at amortised cost	Loans and advances to operating banks at amortised cost	Loans and advances to non-banking financial institutions	Staff loans	Deposits with international Monetary Fund	Investment securities	Letters of credit, undrawn commitments and guarantees	Total
2022								
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	1,114,615	194,837	-	158,046	10,922	5,626	351,979	1,836,025
New financial assets originated or purchased	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial assets derecognized	-	-	(426,719)	-	-	-	-	(426,719)
Amounts recognised in profit or loss	1,114,615	194,837	(426,719)	158,046	10,922	5,626	351,979	1,409,306
2021								
Net remeasurement of loss allowance	102,381	10,375	387,314	27,412	95	975	115,758	644,310
New financial assets originated or purchased	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial assets derecognized	-	3,970	-	8,715	-	107	-	12,792
Financial assets derecognized	-	(21,533)	-	-	-	-	-	(21,533)
Amounts recognised in profit or loss	102,381	(7,188)	387,314	36,127	95	1,082	115,758	636,569

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The following table provides an explanation of how significant changes in the gross carrying amount of financial instruments during the period contributed to changes in loss allowance.

	Impact: increase/(decrease)		
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
2022			
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia			
The increase in loans and advances to Government of Liberia is due to on lending from the IMF through the CBL to GOL as well as the depreciation of the LRD to the USD during the year.	16,527,221	-	-
Staff loans			
The decrease in long-term and vehicle loans to staff resulted from the depreciation of the LRD to the USD during the year. The staff loan is to provide support to individual staff in accordance with accordance with Section (66) of the October 20, 2020, amended Central Bank of Liberia Act 1999.	60,480	-	7,789
Letters of credit and undrawn commitments and guarantee			
The increase in Government of Liberia financial guarantee to operating banks resulted from the depreciation of the LRD to the USD during the year.	1,699,202	-	-
2021			
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia			
The decrease in loans and advances to Government of Liberia is due to from the appreciation of the LRD to the USD during the year.	15,440,683	-	-
Staff loans			
The decrease in long-term and vehicle loans to staff resulted from the appreciation of the LRD to the USD during the year. The staff loan is to provide support to individual staff in accordance with accordance with Section (66) of the October 20, 2020, amended Central Bank of Liberia Act 1999.	51,124	-	1,809
Letters of credit and undrawn commitments and guarantee			
The decrease in Government of Liberia financial guarantee to operating banks resulted from the appreciation of the LRD to the USD during the year.	3,407,790	-	-

LEAF loan was written off during the year ended 31 December 2022 (2021: Nil).

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4.2. Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Central Bank is unable to, or will encounter difficulty, in meeting its payment obligations associated with its financial liabilities when they fall due and to replace funds when they are withdrawn.

4.2.1. Liquidity risk management process

The Liquidity risk management process involves:
preparing cash-based budgets and periodic variance reports to ensure management of future cash flows to meet payment demands when they fall due.

managing the concentration and profile of debt maturities.

monitoring the Statement of financial position, liquidity ratios against internal requirements; and

managing the concentration and profile of asset maturities.

Monitoring and reporting take the form of cash flow measurement and projection for the next day, week and months respectively, as these are key periods for liquidity management. The basis for the projection is an analysis of the contractual maturity of the financial liabilities and the expected collection date of the financial assets.

4.2.2. Financial liabilities and financial assets held for managing liquidity risk

The table below presents the Central Bank's financial liabilities and assets held for managing liquidity risk by remaining contractual maturities at the reporting date. The amounts disclosed in the table are contractual undiscounted cash outflows, whereas the Central Bank manages the inherent liquidity risk based on expected undiscounted cash inflows.

As at December 31, 2022

	Up to 3 months	3 -12 months	1 - 5 years	Over 5 years	Total
Assets					
Cash and balances with other central banks	40,346,531	-	-	-	40,346,531
Cash balances with commercial banks	1,722,557	-	-	-	1,722,557
Loans and advances to operating banks	187,278	543,426	1,311,382	885,223	2,927,309
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia	254,824	-	-	100,892,261	101,147,085
Investment securities	-	2,588,322	-	-	2,588,322
Due from International Monetary Fund	-	-	116,352,210	-	116,352,210
Staff loans	-	108,270	443,950	-	552,220
Other assets	1,545,762	-	-	-	1,545,762
Total assets	44,056,952	3,240,018	118,107,542	101,777,484	267,181,996
Liabilities					
Currency in circulation	26,175,484	-	-	-	26,175,484
Deposits from commercial banks & forex bureau	22,862,364	-	-	-	22,862,364
Deposits of Government of Liberia and agencies	18,054,662	-	-	-	18,054,662
Due to International Monetary Fund	-	-	168,513,092	-	168,513,092
Market instruments	6,539,318	-	-	-	6,539,318
Lease liabilities	-	-	5,251	-	5,251
Other liabilities (excluding lease liabilities)	8,629,562	-	-	-	8,629,562
Guarantees and other commitments	-	-	19,224,935	7,811,095	27,036,030
Total	82,261,390	-	187,743,278	7,811,095	277,815,763
Liquidity Gap	(38,204,438)	3,240,018	(69,635,736)	93,966,389	(10,633,767)

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4.2.2 Financial liabilities and financial assets held for managing liquidity risk (continued)

As at December 31 2021

	Up to 3 months	3 -12 months	1 - 5 years	Over 5 years	Total
Assets					
Cash and balances with central banks	25,482,638	-	-	-	25,482,638
Cash balances with commercial banks	1,690,466	-	-	-	1,690,466
Loans and advances to operating banks	1,977,627	-	588,371	270,747	2,836,745
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia	14,069,109	-	-	70,179,995	84,249,104
Investment securities	-	4,735,788	-	-	4,735,788
Due from International Monetary Fund	-	-	130,808,527	-	130,808,527
Staff loans	8,169	17,456	497,947	1,197	524,769
Other assets	1,270,573	-	-	-	1,270,573
Total assets	44,498,582	4,753,244	131,894,845	70,451,939	251,598,610
Liabilities					
Currency in circulation	24,085,949	-	-	-	24,085,949
Deposits from commercial banks & forex bureau	20,379,991	-	-	-	20,379,991
Deposits of Government of Liberia and agencies	13,911,696	-	-	-	13,911,696
Due to International Monetary Fund	-	-	167,420,063	-	167,420,063
Market instruments	6,246,162	-	-	-	6,246,162
Lease liability	-	315	3,730	4,453	8,498
Other liabilities (excluding lease liabilities)	5,810,391	-	-	-	5,810,391
Guarantees and other commitments	-	-	18,088,922	7,349,533	25,438,455
Total	70,434,189	315	185,512,715	7,353,986	263,301,205
Liquidity Gap	(25,935,607)	4,752,929	(53,617,870)	63,097,953	(11,702,595)

4.2.3. Assets held for managing liquidity risk

The Bank manages its liquidity risks through appropriate structuring of its investment portfolios to ensure that the maturity profiles of assets adequately match those commitments. This is monitored and managed on a daily basis. In addition, the Bank's investment portfolio comprises mainly highly liquid investment instruments. The Bank's assets held for managing liquidity risk comprise:

- Cash and balances with central banks and other operating banks.
- Loans and advances to operating banks, non-bank financial institutions and Government of Liberia.
- Investment securities.
- Amount due from IMF; and
- Staff loans and other assets.

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4.3. Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk arises from open positions in interest rates and currency, all of which are exposed to general and specific market movements and changes in the level of volatility of market rates or prices such as interest rates and foreign exchange rates.

The Central Bank's primary exposure to market risk lies with its deposits held overseas which are exposed to changes in U.S. dollars interest rate.

The objective of market risk measurement is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable limits while optimizing the return on risk. The Bank treasury is responsible for the development of detailed risk management policies and for day-to-day implementation of those policies.

a) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Central Bank takes on exposure to the effects of fluctuations in the prevailing levels of market interest rates on cash flows. Interest margins may increase as a result of such changes but may reduce losses in the event that unexpected movements arise. Investment denominated in U.S. dollars and Liberian dollars attracts interests in U.S. dollars and Liberian dollars respectively.

The Central Bank has capacity to manage these risks by monitoring interest rates daily and ensuring within the limits of its policy function that its financial liabilities match the maturing profile of its financial assets.

The Bank uses gap analysis to measure its exposure to interest rate risk. Through this analysis, it compares the values of interest rate sensitive assets and interest rate sensitive liabilities that mature or re-price at various time periods in the future.

As at December 31, 2022

	Up to 1 year	1 - 5 years	Over 5 years	Non-interest bearing	Total
Assets					
Cash and balances with other central banks	15,945,503	-	-	24,401,028	40,346,531
Cash and balances with commercial banks	1,685,651	-	-	36,906	1,722,557
Loans and advances to operating banks	543,426	1,562,006	821,877	-	2,927,309
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia	25,807,553	-	75,339,532	-	101,147,085
Investment securities	-	2,588,322	-	-	2,588,322
Deposits with International Monetary Fund	-	-	116,328,538	23,673	116,352,210
Staff loans	108,270	443,950	-	-	552,220
Other assets	-	-	-	1,545,762	1,545,762
Total	44,090,403	4,594,278	192,489,947	26,007,369	267,181,996

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4.3 Market risk (continued)

a) Interest rate risk (continued)

	Up to 1 year	1 - 5 years	Over 5 years	Non-interest bearing	Total
Liabilities					
Currency in circulation	-	-	-	26,175,484	26,175,484
Deposit from commercial banks & forex bureau	-	-	-	22,862,364	22,862,364
Deposits of Government of Liberia and agencies	-	-	-	18,054,662	18,054,662
Due to International Monetary Fund	-	-	40,606,168	127,906,924	168,513,092
Market Instruments	6,539,318	-	-	-	6,539,318
Other liabilities	-	-	-	8,629,461	8,629,461
Total financial liabilities	6,539,318	-	40,606,168	203,628,794	250,774,280
Total interest rate repricing gap	37,951,535	4,407,000	151,947,125	(177,621,425)	16,684,235

As at December 31, 2021

	Up to 1 year	1 - 5 years	Over 5 years	Non-interest bearing	Total
Assets					
Cash and balances with other central banks	7,791,435	-	-	17,691,203	25,482,638
Cash and balances with commercial bank	1,689,031	-	-	1,435	1,690,466
Loans and advances to operating banks	1,977,627	588,371	270,747	-	2,836,745
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia	14,069,109	-	70,179,995	-	84,249,104
Investment security	4,735,788	-	-	-	4,735,788
Deposits with International Monetary Fund	-	-	109,197,392	279,497	109,476,889
Staff loans	25,625	497,947	1,197	-	524,769
Other assets	-	-	-	1,270,573	1,270,573
Total financial assets	30,288,615	1,086,318	137,435,361	82,788,316	251,598,610
Liabilities					
Currency in circulation	-	-	-	24,085,949	24,085,949
Deposits from commercial banks & forex bureau	-	-	-	20,379,991	20,379,991
Deposits of Government of Liberia and agencies	-	-	-	13,911,696	13,911,696
Due to International Monetary Fund	-	-	45,806,829	121,613,234	167,420,063
Market instruments	6,246,162	-	-	-	6,246,162
Other liabilities	-	-	-	5,823,514	5,823,514
Total financial liabilities	6,246,162	-	45,806,829	185,814,384	237,867,375
Total interest rate repricing gap	24,042,453	1,086,318	91,628,532	(103,026,068)	13,731,235

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4.3 Market risk (continued)

b) Foreign exchange risk

The Central Bank takes on exposure to the effects of fluctuations in the prevailing foreign currency exchange rates on its financial position and cash flows. It is exposed to fluctuations in the exchange rate between the Liberian Dollar, United States Dollars, SDR and the Euro. The table below summarizes the Central Bank's exposure to exchange rate risk at December 31, 2022. Also reflected is the carrying amount of the Central Bank's holdings, categorized by currency.

Concentration of currency risk on financial instruments

At December 31, 2022

	Liberian Dollar	SDR	EUR	Total
Assets				
Cash and balances with commercial banks	36,906	-	11,817	48,723
Loans and advances to operating banks	405,508	-	-	405,508
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia	-	-	-	-
Investment securities	528	-	-	528
Deposit with International Monetary Fund	-	116,352,210	-	116,352,210
Other assets	173,959	-	-	173,959
Total financial assets	616,901	116,352,210	11,817	116,980,928
Liabilities				
Currency in circulation	26,175,484	-	-	26,175,484
Deposit from commercial banks and forex bureau	9,256,365	-	-	9,256,365
Deposits of Government of Liberia and agencies	7,964,492	-	-	7,964,492
Due to International Monetary Fund	-	168,513,092	-	168,513,092
Other liabilities	262,506	-	-	262,506
Market Instrument	6,539,318	-	-	6,539,318
Total financial liabilities	50,198,165	168,513,092	-	218,711,257
Net financial position	(49,581,264)	(52,160,882)	11,817	(101,730,329)

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4.3 Market risk (continued)

b) Foreign exchange risk (continued)

**Concentration of currency risk on financial instruments
 At December 31, 2021**

	Liberian Dollar	SDR	EUR	Total
Assets				
Cash and balances with commercial banks	132,102	-	8,109	140,211
Loans and advances to non-banking financial Institutions	383,478	-	-	383,478
Loans and advances to commercial banks	293,293	-	-	293,293
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia	198,097	-	-	198,097
Investment securities	310,554	-	-	310,554
Deposit with International Monetary Fund	-	125,454,915	-	125,454,915
Other assets	289,891	-	-	289,891
Total financial assts	1,607,415	125,454,915	8,109	127,070,439
Liabilities				
Currency in circulation	23,983,596	-	-	23,983,596
Deposit from commercial banks and forex bureau	6,342,580	-	-	6,342,580
Deposit of Government of Liberia and agencies	4,647,286	-	-	4,647,286
Due to International Monetary Fund	-	162,067,848	-	162,067,848
Other liabilities	5,504,315	-	-	5,504,315
Market instruments	6,246,162	-	-	6,246,162
Total financial liabilities	46,723,939	162,067,848	-	208,791,787
Net financial position	(45,116,524)	(36,612,933)	8,109	(81,721,348)

The following significant exchange rates have been applied during the year and at the year end.

	Average rate		Reporting rate		Highest rate	
	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021
LRD\$1	0.0066	0.0060	0.0065	0.0069	0.0065	0.0058
EURO1	1.1186	1.1840	1.0622	1.1310	1.1464	1.2338
SDR1	1.3384	1.4249	1.3308	1.3996	1.4079	1.4507

4.3.1. Foreign Exchange Sensitivity

The following table shows the effect of a strengthening or weakening of LRD\$ against the currencies listed below on profit or loss and equity. This sensitivity analysis indicates the potential impact on profit or loss and equity based on foreign currency exposures recorded at 31 December. (See “currency risk” above).

It does not represent actual or future gains or losses.

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A strengthening/weakening of the LRD\$ by the rates shown in the table against the following currencies at 31 December would have impacted equity and profit or loss by the amounts shown below:

This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular interest rates, remain constant. The analysis is performed on the same basis for 2021.

As of 31 December in US\$'000	% Change	2022		% Change	2021	
		Profit or loss impact: Strengthening	Equity impact: Strengthening		Profit or loss impact: Strengthening	Equity impact: Strengthening
LRD\$	±2	2,646,862	2,646,862	±5	2,042,117	2,042,117
SDR	±5	17,532,301	17,532,301	±2	663,302	663,302
EUR	±2	1,901	1,901	±4	341	341

4.4. Fair value of financial assets and liabilities

COVID-19 considerations

The COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic has significantly affected financial markets and may impact valuation techniques used by banks and classification of financial instruments in the fair value hierarchy. Given the impact of the increase in economic uncertainty on forecasting cash flows and other unobservable inputs used in valuation techniques (e.g., certain risk-adjusted discount rates), the Bank has provided additional sensitivity disclosures – together with disclosure of the key assumptions and judgements made by management – to enable users to understand how fair value has been determined. These disclosures are required under both IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement and IAS 1. IFRS 13 also contains specific disclosure requirements when amounts are transferred into Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy, including sensitivity disclosures.

The Bank has an established control framework for the measurement of fair values. Specific controls to check the fair valuation of financial assets include:

- verification of observable pricing.
- re-performance of model valuations.
- analysis and investigation of significant daily valuation movements; and
- review of significant unobservable inputs, valuation adjustments and significant changes to the fair value measurement of Level 3 instruments compared with the previous month.

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When third party information, such as pricing services, is used to measure fair value, Product Control assesses and documents the evidence obtained from the third parties to support the conclusion that the valuations meet the requirements of IFRS. This includes:

- verifying that the broker or pricing service is approved by the Bank for use in pricing the relevant type of financial instrument.
- understanding how the fair value has been arrived at, the extent to which it represents actual market transactions and whether it represents a quoted price in an active market for an identical instrument.
- when prices for similar instruments are used to measure fair value, how these prices have been adjusted to reflect the characteristics of the instrument subject to measurement; and
- if a number of quotes for the same financial instrument have been obtained, then how fair value has been determined using those quotes.

Significant valuation issues are reported to the Board's Audit Committee

(a) Financial instrument not measured at fair value

The table below summarizes the carrying amounts and fair values of those financial assets and financial liabilities not presented at their fair values as at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 respectively:

	Carrying Value		Fair Value	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
Financial assets				
Cash and balances with other central banks	40,346,531	25,482,638	40,346,531	25,482,638
Cash and balances with commercial banks	1,722,557	1,690,466	1,722,557	1,690,466
Loans and advances to operating banks	2,927,309	2,836,745	2,927,309	2,836,745
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia	101,147,085	84,249,104	101,147,085	84,249,104
Investment securities	2,588,322	4,735,788	2,588,322	4,735,788
Deposit with International Monetary Fund	116,352,210	130,808,527	116,352,210	130,808,527
Staff loans	552,220	524,769	552,220	524,769
Other assets	1,545,762	1,270,573	1,545,762	1,270,573
Total financial assets	267,181,996	251,598,610	267,181,996	251,598,610

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	Carrying Value		Fair Value	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
Financial liabilities				
Currency in circulation	26,175,484	24,085,949	26,175,484	24,085,949
Deposits from commercial banks and forex bureau	22,862,364	20,379,991	22,862,364	20,379,991
Deposits of Government of Liberia and agencies	18,054,662	13,911,696	18,054,662	13,911,696
Due to the International Monetary Fund	168,513,092	167,420,063	168,513,092	167,420,063
Market Instruments	6,539,318	6,246,162	6,539,318	6,246,162
Other liabilities	8,634,712	5,823,514	8,634,712	5,823,514
Total financial liabilities	250,779,632	237,867,375	250,779,632	237,867,375

Where applicable, the fair value of loans and advances to banks and GOL is based on observable market transactions. Where observable market transactions are not available, fair value is estimated using valuation models such as discounted cash flow techniques which represent the discounted amount of estimated future cash flows expected to be received. Expected cash flows are discounted at current market rates to determine the fair value.

The fair value of deposits is estimated using discounted cash flow techniques, applying the rates that are offered for deposits of similar maturities and terms. The fair value of deposits payable on demand is the amount payable at the reporting date.

(b) Fair value hierarchy

IFRS 7 specifies a hierarchy of valuation techniques based on whether inputs to those valuation techniques are observable or unobservable. Observable inputs reflect market data obtained from independent sources; unobservable inputs reflect the Bank's market assumptions. These two types of inputs have created the following fair value hierarchy:

Level 1 - Quoted prices (adjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. This level includes listed equity securities and debt instruments on exchanges.

Level 2 - Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices).

Level 3 - Inputs for assets or liabilities that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs). This level includes equity investments and debt instruments with significant unobservable components.

There are no financial instruments measured at fair value as at 31 December 2022 and 31 December 2021.

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4.5. Capital management

The Bank does not have any regulator that sets and monitors its capital requirements. The Capital requirements of the Bank is governed by the capital requirement of the Central Bank of Liberia Act of 1999 as amended in 2020. The Bank considers its stated capital and other reserves as its capital. The Central Bank's objective in managing capital and reserves is to ensure the Central Bank's ability to continue to perform its functions as set by the October 20, 2020, amended Central Bank of Liberia Act of 1999. The minimum authorised capital requirement of the Central Bank of Liberia Act of 1999 as amended on October 20, 2020, in accordance with Part III, Section 8(1) shall be 2,000,000,000 Liberia Dollars and may be increased by such amounts that may be proposed by the Board of Governors.

5. Classification of financial assets and liabilities

The following table provides a reconciliation between line items in the statement of financial position and categories of financial instruments.

	Note	Amortised cost	Total carrying amount
31 December 2022			
Cash and balances with Central banks	13	40,346,531	40,346,531
Cash balances with Commercial banks	14	1,722,557	1,722,557
Loans and advances to operating banks	15	2,927,309	2,927,309
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia	16	101,147,085	101,147,085
Investment securities	17	2,588,322	2,588,322
Deposit with IMF	18	116,352,210	116,352,210
Staff loans	19	552,220	552,220
Other assets	20	1,545,762	1,545,762
Total financial assets		267,181,996	267,181,996
Currency in circulation	24	26,175,484	26,175,484
Deposit from commercial banks and forex bureau	25	22,862,364	22,862,364
Deposits of GOL and agencies	26	18,054,662	18,054,662
Due to IMF	27	168,513,092	168,513,092
Other liabilities	28	8,634,712	8,634,712
Market instruments	29	6,539,318	6,539,318
Total financial liabilities		250,779,632	250,779,632
31 December 2021			
Cash and balances with Central banks	13	25,482,638	25,482,638
Cash balances with Commercial banks	14	1,690,466	1,690,466
Loans, advances and overdraft to bank	15	2,836,745	2,836,745
Loans and advances to Government of Liberia	17	84,249,104	84,249,104
Investment securities	18	4,735,788	4,735,788
Deposit with IMF	19	130,808,527	130,808,527
Staff loans	20	524,769	524,769
Other assets	21	1,270,572	1,270,572
Total financial assets		251,598,609	251,598,609
Currency in circulation	25	24,085,949	24,085,949
Deposit from commercial banks and forex bureau	26	20,379,991	20,379,991
Deposits of GOL and agencies	27	13,330,246	13,330,246
Due to IMF	28	167,420,063	167,420,063
Other liabilities	29	6,404,965	6,404,965
Market instruments	30	6,246,162	6,246,162
Total financial liabilities		237,867,376	237,867,376

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(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

6. Interest income

	2022	2021
GOL loans and advances	2,968,410	3,204,790
Investment securities	52,235	135,797
Placement and staff loans	255,626	298,701
	<u>3,276,271</u>	<u>3,639,288</u>

6i. Interest expense

	2022	2021
Interest expense related to CBL bills	745,101	1,409,622
	<u>745,101</u>	<u>1,409,622</u>

7. Fees and commissions

	2022	2021
Service fees and commissions	561,643	551,356
Note transfer fees	66,656	51,231
	<u>628,299</u>	<u>602,587</u>

8. Other income

	2022	2021
Rental income	452	496
Fines	934	2,515
Rural banking check encashment	11,300	49,606
Spot charges on notes advanced	83	15,053
Other miscellaneous income	136,094	178,988
Grant income (i)	542,235	-
Write-off of uncleared balances (ii)	-	5,253,778
	<u>691,098</u>	<u>5,500,436</u>

(i) During the year, total government grant released through P&L accounts for capital items, cost of notes printed, and coins minted as well other operational activities.

(ii) In 2019, the Bank, International Monetary Fund and the Government of Liberia agreed to classify the October 31, 2019, balances of various clearing suspense accounts as a receivable to CBL having performed a vigorous reconciliation to consummate the GOL Consolidated Loan. From November 2019 to date, Banking department continued and completed the reconciliation of all suspense accounts and identified uncleared balances in clearing suspense and settlement accounts. The reconciliation concluded that GOL and Commercial banks were all given their appropriate debits or credits based on presentation made during the period mentioned.

9. Impairment charge on financial assets

	2022	2021
Impairment charge	1,409,334	636,569
	<u>1,409,334</u>	<u>636,569</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

10. Net gain/(loss) on derecognition of financial assets measured at amortised cost

In 2012, the Central Bank of Liberia launched the Loan Extension and Availability Facility (LEAF) to provide soft loan to microfinance institution, credit unions, and village savings and loan associations (VSLAs). An amount of L\$535,082,505.75, was written off due to the loan not being collectible.

11. Administrative expenses	2022	2021
Staff costs (i)	2,064,033	2,279,877
Board fees and expenses (ii)	98,459	117,213
Depreciation	227,565	268,980
Amortization	8,998	9,875
Other administrative expenses (iii)	1,576,566	1,019,527
CBL contribution to regional bodies	263,019	223,291
	4,238,640	3,918,763

(i) Staff costs	2022	2021
Salaries and wages	1,402,331	1,634,813
Social security contributions	66,815	74,620
Other personnel costs	203,961	186,318
Day one loss on fair valuation of staff loan	14,778	(76,755)
Pension cost:		
- Current service cost	297,648	369,888
- Interest cost	78,500	90,993
	2,064,033	2,279,877

(ii) Board fees and expenses	2022	2021
Board fees	80,483	100,400
Board expenses	17,976	16,813
	98,459	117,213

The number persons employed by the Bank at the end of year was 358 (2021: 373).

(iii) Other administrative expenses	2022	2021
Vehicle fuel, insurance and maintenance	93,049	87,047
Property cost/occupancy	299,652	226,976
Office expenses	88,393	132,128
Professional services	228,199	326,492
Security and cleaning services	78,942	76,860
Travel expenses	61,687	34,360
Software, internet & network costs	190,003	257,333
Bank charges	389	3,693
Audit fees	31,592	28,502
Port and clearing charges	99	1,547
Vehicle scheme expense	42,942	45,472
Other miscellaneous	453,679	(214,082)
Interest expense on lease liability	253	267
Subscription and public relation	7687	12,932
	1,576,566	1,019,527

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12. Currency expense		2022	2021
Notes importation		16,916	81,985
Mute exportation		78,407	2,041
Cost of destroying banknotes		303,904	-
Amortization of currency printing cost - bank notes and coins		1,132,699	235,075
		1,531,926	319,101
13. Cash and balances with other central banks		2022	2021
Cash on hand and in vault		24,385,321	17,652,296
Cash balances at rural banks		15,707	1,705
Balances with other central banks		15,945,503	7,828,637
		40,346,531	25,482,638
14. Cash and balances with commercial banks		2022	2021
Balances with local banks		36,906	133,538
Balances with foreign banks (commercial)		1,685,651	1,556,928
		1,722,557	1,690,466
15. Loans and advances to operating banks			
	Years of	2022	2021
	Maturity	Carrying amount	Carrying amount
Mortgage loans (a)	2024	1,309,678	1,253,683
RPAL (b)	2023	65,050	130,102
Agric loans (c)	2030	885,223	1,087,070
Emergency Liquidity Assistance (d)		187,278	118,261
Special deposit (e)		543,426	501,239
		2,990,655	3,090,355
Impairment allowance		(63,346)	(253,610)
		2,927,309	2,836,745

(a) Mortgage Loan

The Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) made a placement with the Liberia Bank for Development & Investment (LBDI) named and styled MORTGAGE LOAN on November 13, 2012, with a face value of US\$7,000,000 and L\$217,500,000 and at a fixed interest rate of 3%. The loan was originally set to mature in 2022. The loan has a grace period of six months and interest on this loan is paid on a quarterly basis with an automatic debit to LBDI Current account at the end of each quarter. Due to the Ebola epidemic in the country, CBL issued policy No. 5 extending the duration of the loan by two (2) years which indicates that the loan will mature in 2024 and reducing the interest chargeable on the loan by 1%.

(b) RPAL Loan

The Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) made a L\$129,750,000 placement on 12 November 2021 with the Liberia Bank for Development and Investment (LBDI) to enable the Central Bank to provide medium-term loans to members of the Rubber Planters Association of Liberia (RPAL) at 2% for two years. The Loan matures on November 12, 2023.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

15. Loans and advances to operating banks

(c) Agriculture Loan

The Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) made a placement with the Afriland First Bank Liberia Limited (AFBLL) named AGRILCUTURE LOAN on December 13, 2012, with a face value of US\$5,000,000 and L\$181,250,000 and a fixed interest rate of 2.5% at variable maturity dates. The loan will finally mature in 2030. The loan has a variable gestation period. Interest on the loan and the loan principal was originally expected to be paid annually during the cash out period for each crop with an automatic debit to Afriland's current account. Due to the Ebola epidemic in the country, CBL issued policy No. 5 extending the duration of the loan by two (2) years and providing for all interest and principal repayment to be made at maturity.

(d) Emergency Liquidity Support (ELA)

Based on Section 32(2) of the CBL Act and Regulation Concerning Emergency Liquidity Assistance (ELA), the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) advanced funds to Sapelle International Bank Liberia Limited (SIBLL) and Global Bank Liberia limited. As at December 31, 2022, the gross amount of the amount advanced stood at US\$1,212,218.89.

(e) Special deposit

The Central Bank of Liberia made a placement with the Liberian Bank for Development (LBDI) named special deposit on September 02, 2010, with a face value of US\$2,751,000 and a fixed interest rate of 2% per annum payable on demand.

16. Loans and advances to Government of Liberia

Loan	Currency	Year of Maturity	2022	2021
Consolidated loan (a)	US\$	2044	75,339,532	72,031,217
Other receivables (c)			26,208,003	12,989,098
			101,547,535	85,020,315
Impairment allowance			(400,450)	(771,211)
			101,147,085	84,249,104

- a. On December 6, 2019, the Government of Liberia and the Central Bank of Liberia consolidated all the debts between the Government of Liberia and the Bank in the amount of US\$ 487,482,838 million to be paid in 180 equal and consecutive monthly installment beginning January 30, 2029. This amount includes forward lending of Extended Credit Facility loan in 2014 for budget support, Rapid Credit Facility loan in 2015 for budget support and Extended Credit Facility loan in 2016 for budget support. Interest on these amounts is accrued only on the due as specified in the memorandum. The annual interest is 4% per annum.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

16. Loans and advances to Government of Liberia (continued)

b. On 18 March 2013 an MOU was signed between the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Liberia and the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL), for CBL to hold all Liberia's balances with the IMF in its books. On inception there was a shortfall of assets and liabilities of SDR16million which was recognised as a long-term receivable from the GOL to be paid on a future date agreed by MOF and GOL. On 10 October 2014 an extended credit facility received from the IMF of SDR32,300,000 was advanced to GOL for budgetary support, this amount was offset by a grant assistance of SDR25,400,000 by the IMF under the catastrophe containment (CC) window in accordance with section III, paragraphs 1 and 3(A) of the CCR trust.

In December 2016, out of the ECF loan of SDR27.69million given to CBL, SDR12.9million was advanced to the Government of Liberia as budgetary support resulting in the total amount due from GOL of SDR35,360,000. The amount in the financial statement represents the L\$ equivalent. In 2022, the Central Bank of Liberia, through the IMF on lend SDR equivalent to US\$80,000,000 to the Government of Liberia to facilitate fiscal operations. This loan shall mature in 99 years or when Liberia's SDR holdings are required to be reconsidered or cancelled by the IMF, whichever comes first. Ministry of Finance, Planning and Development (MFDP) is entitled to repay the loan in part or in full at any time at its sole discretion without prepayment penalty.

c. This represents other receivables from the Government of Liberia as at December 31, 2022.

17. Investment securities

	2022	2021
Investment in GOL treasury bills	96	311,400
Other investment securities*	2,597,025	4,427,239
	<u>2,597,121</u>	<u>4,738,639</u>
Impairment provision	(8,799)	(2,851)
	<u>2,588,322</u>	<u>4,735,788</u>

*This represents fixed deposits held with Africa Export-Import Bank and Crown Agent Bank.

18. Deposits with International Monetary Fund

	2022	2021
IMF quota subscription	53,128,121	63,836,042
Special drawing right holdings	63,200,999	66,983,422
Accrued remuneration	23,673	568
	<u>116,352,793</u>	<u>130,820,032</u>
Impairment allowance	(583)	(11,505)
	<u>116,352,210</u>	<u>130,808,527</u>

Liberia's Membership with IMF

Article XIII, Sections 2a and 3 in the Articles of Agreement of the IMF requires each member to designate its Central Bank as a depository for all the Fund's holdings and currency and guarantee all assets of the Fund against loss resulting from failure or default on the part of its designated depository. With reference to the guidelines of the Financial Organizational and Operations manual of the IMF, Central Bank of Liberia uses the gross method of presenting the assets and liabilities arising from the GOL's membership in the statement of financial position. The IMF recommends the use of the gross method for a country whose depository and fiscal agents are the same. The position in the General Department is presented on a gross basis if the IMF No.1, No.2, and Securities Accounts are shown as liabilities and the member's quota is shown as an asset. Additionally, on March 18, 2013, a memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Liberia and the Central Bank of Liberia regarding respective roles and responsibilities in connection with transactions with the International Monetary Fund was signed.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

Liberia's Membership with IMF (continued)

Central Bank of Liberia is the fiscal and depository agent of Liberia for transactions with the International Monetary Fund. Financial resources made available to Liberia by the Fund are channeled through CBL to the Government. CBL has a claim on the GOL matching liabilities to the Fund. Similarly, CBL has a liability to the Government of Liberia matching the assets, the quota subscription, held in the Fund. As of close of business on March 14, 2008, the IMF confirmed the completion of Liberia's clearance of its arrears, payment of quota increases and related Fund financing transactions and the granting of new facilities. All applicable entries were recorded in the IMF's accounts held at Central Bank of Liberia.

IMF Quota Subscription

Quota subscriptions are a central component of the IMF's financial resources. Each member country of the IMF is assigned a quota, based broadly on its relative position in the world economy. A member country's quota determines its maximum financial commitment to the IMF, its voting power, and has a bearing on its access to IMF financing. In 2017, Liberia's Quota was SDR 258.4 million.

Special drawing rights holdings and allocation

SDR's are interest-bearing assets allocated by the IMF to each participant in the Special Drawing Rights Department to meet various global operating needs of the Fund as and when they arise, as a supplement to the Fund's existing reserves. SDR's are allocated by the IMF to members participating in the SDR department in proportion to their quotas to the Fund at the time of allocation.

19. Staff loans

	2022	2021
Gross amount	710,266	641,996
Impairment	(158,046)	(117,227)
	<u>552,220</u>	<u>524,769</u>

Staff of the Bank of Liberia are entitled to loans at 3% and 4% as compared to the market rate of 12.44% as at the reporting date.

20. Other assets

	2022	2021
Accounts receivable (i)	1,545,762	1,270,573
Prepaid expenses (ii)	594,822	428,516
Deferred currency cost (iii)	579,085	292,440
	<u>2,719,669</u>	<u>1,991,529</u>

(i) Accounts receivable

	2022	2021
Due from others	1,538,697	416,066
Other receivable	7,064	854,507
	<u>1,545,761</u>	<u>1,270,573</u>

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(ii) Prepaid expenses

	2022	2021
Rent	1,236	-
Insurance	11,827	12,170
Fixed asset in transit	505,189	56,916
Others	76,570	359,430
	<u>594,822</u>	<u>428,516</u>

(iii) Deferred currency cost

	2022	2021
At January 1	292,439	124,058
Addition	1,285,669	108,581
Amortization charge (note 12)	(1,132,699)	(235,075)
Write Off	(1,007,675)	-
Translation difference	1,141,351	294,876
At December 31	<u>579,085</u>	<u>292,440</u>

21. Intangible assets

2022

	Other software	Payment System	T24 License	WIP	Total
Cost					
Balance at January 1	893,143	818,655	88,688	9,360	1,809,846
Translation difference	56,091	51,413	5,570	(7,236)	105,837
Balance at December 31	949,233	870,068	94,258	2,124	1,915,684
Accumulated amortization					
Balance at January 1	891,204	818,655	15,424	-	1,725,283
Amortization charge	1,102	-	7,994	-	8,998
Translation difference	55,995	51,413	1,171	-	108,579
Balance at December 31	948,203	870,068	24,589	-	1,842,861
Net book value at December 31	1,030	-	69,669	2,124	72,823

2021

	Other software	Payment System	T24 License	WIP	Total
Cost					
Balance at January 1	803,182	887,328	116,503	2,165	1,809,178
Additions	-	-	-	9,671	9,671
Translation difference	89,961	(68,673)	(27,815)	(2,476)	(9,003)
Balance at December 31	893,143	818,655	88,688	9,360	1,809,846
Accumulated amortization					
Balance at January 1	995,060	1,003,476	10,131	-	2,008,667
Amortization charge	1,102	-	8,773	-	9,875
Translation difference	(104,958)	(184,821)	(3,480)	-	(293,259)
Balance at December 31	891,204	818,655	15,424	-	1,725,283
Net book value at December 31	1,939	-	73,264	9,360	84,563

There was no impairment identified at December 31, 2022 (December 31, 2021: NIL).

Other software comprises of various software such as Great Plain Dynamic, Swift, Bank master, IDEA, VregCoss., eView Econometric statistic software. and SP Monitor.

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(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

22. Property, plant and equipment

2022	Land	Building	Leasehold	Furniture Fixtures	Equipment	Motor Vehicle	Work in progress	Total
Cost								
Balance at January 1	73,944	5,400,800	146,606	134,115	1,815,892	193,859	-	7,765,216
Additions	34,095	-	-	18,205	25,945	52,720	209,457	340,422
Disposals	-	-	-	(52,554)	(519,067)	-	-	(571,621)
Translation difference	5,507	339,179	9,207	7,552	101,543	13,510	5,309	481,807
Balance at December 31	113,546	5,739,979	155,813	107,318	1,424,313	260,089	214,766	8,015,824
Accumulated depreciation								
Balance at January 1	-	691,536	146,606	119,902	1,646,208	153,235	-	2,757,487
Depreciation charge	-	113,353	-	9,296	69,181	35,735	-	227,565
Disposals	-	-	-	(52,454)	(517,442)	-	-	(569,896)
Translation difference	-	46,307	9,207	6,436	92,028	10,530	-	164,508
Balance at December 31	-	851,196	155,813	83,180	1,289,975	199,500	-	2,579,664
Net book value at December 31	113,546	4,888,783	-	24,138	134,338	60,589	214,766	5,436,160

2021

Cost

Balance at January 1	63,814	4,597,284	126,523	144,147	1,974,579	262,011	93,689	7,262,047
Additions	-	93,286	-	4,703	113,723	14,253	-	225,965
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(86,332)	(57,530)	-	(143,862)
Transfer-project	-	-	-	-	-	-	(93,286)	(93,286)
Translation difference	10,130	710,230	20,083	(14,735)	(186,078)	(24,875)	(403)	514,352
Balance at December 31	73,944	5,400,800	146,606	134,115	1,815,892	193,859	-	7,765,216
Accumulated depreciation								
Balance at January 1	-	679,841	126,523	131,187	1,806,294	218,204	-	2,962,049
Depreciation charge	-	120,505	-	7,799	102,854	35,826	-	266,984
Disposal	-	-	-	-	(86,332)	(57,530)	-	(143,862)
Translation difference	-	(108,810)	20,083	(19,084)	(176,608)	(43,265)	-	(327,684)
Balance at December 31	-	691,536	146,606	119,902	1,646,208	153,235	-	2,757,487
Net book value at December 31	73,944	4,709,264	-	14,213	169,684	40,624	-	5,007,729

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

22(a) Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	2022	2021
Cost	571,621	143,862
Accumulated depreciation	(569,891)	(143,862)
Net book value	1,730	-
Proceeds from disposal	-	-
Loss on disposal	(1,730)	-

There was no indication of impairment of property, plant and equipment held by the Bank at 31 December 2022 (2021: Nil). None of the property, plant and equipment of the Bank had been pledged as security for liabilities and there were no restrictions on the title of any of the Bank's property, plant and equipment at the reporting date and at the end of the previous year.

23. Leases

See accounting policy in Note 3.14

(a) Leases as lessee

The Bank leases a number of branch and office premises. These leases typically run for a period of 1 - 15 years, usually with an option to renew the lease after that date. Payments are renegotiated as and when to reflect market rentals. The Bank has elected not to recognise right of use assets and lease liabilities for short term and/or leases of low value items.

Information about leases for which the Bank is a lessee is presented below:

(i) Right of use assets

Right of use assets relate to leased payment centers and residential premises that are presented in property plant and equipment within buildings.

	2022	2021
Balance at 1 January	11,015	13,011
Depreciation charge for the year	(1,847)	(1,996)
Balance at 31 December	9,168	11,015

The future minimum lease payments under noncancellable operating leases that had been prepaid were due as follows:

Maturity analysis	2022	2021
Less than one year	-	315
Between one and five years	1,483	3,730
More than five years	7,416	4,453
Balance at 31 December	8,899	8,498

(ii) Amounts recognised in profit or loss

Interest on lease liabilities	253	267
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(iii) Amounts recognised in the statements of cash flows

Lease liability finance charges paid	-	467
Principal lease liability payments	1,446	2,980

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

23. Leases (continued)

(iv) Reconciliation, in respect of lease liability, of opening amounts to closing amounts are detailed below:

	2022	2021
Balance at 1 January	13,123	18,249
Finance charge	253	267
Lease payments	(1,446)	(3,447)
Foreign currency transactional (gain)/ loss	(6,679)	(1,946)
Balance at 31 December	5,251	13,123

Extension options

Some leases of office premises contain extension options exercisable by the Bank up to an average of three (3) years before the end of the non-cancellable contract period. Where practicable, the Bank seeks to include extension options in new leases to provide operational flexibility. The extension options held are exercisable only by the Bank and not by the lessors. The Bank assesses at lease commencement date whether it is reasonably certain to exercise the extension options. The Bank reassesses whether it is reasonably certain to exercise the options if there is a significant event or significant event or significant changes in circumstances within its control.

24. Currency in circulation

Liberian notes	2022	2021
L\$5	249,803	280,495
L\$10	406,069	723,139
L\$20	846,226	1,558,584
L\$50	3,667,659	3,153,851
L\$100	17,806,286	12,381,774
L\$500	7,363,649	7,979,999
Total currency notes	30,339,692	26,077,842
Coin		
Coins in Circulation	-	23,050
5¢	41,000	-
10¢	43,400	-
Total coins	84,400	23,050
Total Currency in Circulation	30,424,092	26,100,892
Less:		
Liberian Dollars held by the bank and payment centers	(4,201,455)	(1,383,973)
Mutes in vault*	(47,153)	(630,970)
	26,175,484	24,085,949

Mutes in vault represent mutilated notes that will not be re circulated and have been marked to be destroyed. The liability for notes and coins in circulation is the net liability after off-setting notes and coins held by the Bank because cash held by the Bank does not represent currency in circulation.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

25. Deposits from commercial banks and forex bureau

	2022	2021
Current accounts - commercial banks	22,807,364	20,329,985
Current accounts - non-commercial banks	33,646	35,884
Collection accounts - failed banks	18,605	11,401
Forex bureau deposits	2,749	2,721
	22,862,364	20,379,991

26. Deposits of Government of Liberia and Agencies

	2022	2021
Demand deposits - central government	7,374,438	3,979,790
Payable to Government of Liberia	7,168,137	6,953,713
Demand deposits - individual ministries & agencies	3,171,455	2,644,803
Small medium enterprises deposits	301,993	284,202
State-owned deposits	38,639	49,188
	18,054,662	13,911,696

27. Amounts due to International Monetary Fund

	2022	2021
IMF SDR allocation	81,072,904	75,617,327
GRA accounts #1 & #2	25,306,252	24,693,840
IMF securities	21,527,768	21,302,067
ECF loan	29,847,724	29,151,824
IMF Rapid Credit Facility Loan – RCF	10,758,444	16,655,005
	168,513,092	167,420,063

General Resource Account (GRA)

The GRA is the principal account of the IMF and handles transactions between the IMF and its membership. The GRA can best be described as a pool of currencies and reserve assets built up from members' fully paid capital subscriptions in the form of quotas.

Balances of the Fund's holdings of member's currency are shown in the Securities account, the No.1 accounts, and the No. 2 account, as well as currency valuation adjustment accounts. These accounts are considered as liabilities maintained in the currency of the IMF member.

This comprises Special Drawing Rights (SDR) currency holdings, which are denominated in Liberian dollars by IMF. Transactions effected under agreement with the Fund are converted to Liberian dollars at an exchange rate applicable on the dates of the respective transactions. Outstanding balances with the Fund are revalued on the basis of a rate ruling at the reporting date. Foreign exchange gains and losses arising from the annual revaluation are posted to General Reserve.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

27. Amounts due to International Monetary Fund (continued)

Extended Credit Facility (ECF) loan and interest (Formerly PRGF Loan)

The ECF is a loan obtained by GOL to strengthen the country's balance of payment position, and to foster sustainable growth, leading to higher living standards and reduction in poverty. The first ECF disbursement date of arrangement was November 19, 2012, and expires on November 18, 2015. Following the extension of Liberia program with the IMF up to November 2017, another additional ECF disbursement of US\$37.1 million was provided by the Fund. US\$17.3 million of this amount was provided to the Government of Liberia as 2017 budget support. The Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved another four-year arrangement with an amount equivalent to SDR 155 million (equivalent to about US\$ 213.6 million) for balance of payment. Out of the amount approved, an amount of SDR 17 million (about US\$ 23.4 million) was disbursed in December 2019. In 2020, ECF loan of SDR 70,176,000 (equivalent to US\$ 98.8 million) was received for GOL budget support, Reserve accretion and Covid 19 relief.

IMF Rapid Credit Facility Loan-RCF

The rapid credit facility was obtained by Government of Liberia to support its balance of payment needs. The Rapid Credit Facility date of arrangement was February 2015.

28. Other liabilities

	2022	2021
Accounts payable (i)	3,663,473	3,735,515
Deferred income	14,904	13,022
Payable to foreign banks**	1,581,320	1,546,463
Micro-finance & other institutions	4,973	4,757
Payable to depositors of failed banks	1,869	1,869
Clearing suspense	898,802	236,942
Lease liabilities	5,251	13,123
Other liabilities	8,873	-
Impairment on financial guarantee	649,794	271,823
Deferred Income-government grant (ii)	1,805,453	-
	8,634,712	5,823,514

(i) Accounts payable	2022	2021
Official checks – CBL	7,261	900
Managers' checks – CBL	592,311	282,711
Stale checks payable	132	46,552
Due to staff	17,989	14,153
Accounts payable	58,532	65,646
Accrued expenses	2,987,248	3,325,553
	3,663,473	3,735,515

**Payable to foreign banks are liabilities that have been in existence for more than 10 years. It comprises of L\$0.26 billion payable to United Bank of Switzerland and L\$1.30 billion payable to WAMA BCEAO.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

28. Other liabilities (continued)

(ii) Deferred Income - Government grant

	Capital expenditure	Currency reform activities	Revenue expenditure	Total
Opening balance	-	-	-	-
Transfer from Deposit from Government	581,450	-	-	581,450
Funds received during the year	222,387	849,326	674,042	1,745,755
Expenses incurred in the year	(221,472)	(558,731)	(270,446)	(1,050,649)
Exchange difference	<u>(5,613)</u>	<u>(14,161)</u>	<u>(6,854)</u>	<u>(26,628)</u>
Unutilized Balance	<u>576,752</u>	<u>276,434</u>	<u>396,742</u>	<u>1,249,928</u>

Closing balance

(iii) Analysis of expenses incurred with Grant

Deferred income

Opening balance	-	-	-	-
Expenses incurred in the year (note 28(ii))	221,472	558,731	270,446	1,050,649
Released to profit & loss – current year (note 8(i))	-	(271,789)	(270,446)	(542,235)
Exchange difference	<u>18,250</u>	<u>17,231</u>	-	<u>35,481</u>
Grant utilized but not released into the Profit and loss	<u>239,722</u>	<u>304,173</u>	-	<u>543,895</u>

(iv) Grant recognized as other income in current year

Release to profit & loss	<u>542,235</u>
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(v) Deferred income

Unutilized Grant (see (ii) above)	576,752	276,434	396,742	1,249,928
Deferred income not recognized (see (iii) above)	239,722	302,513	-	543,895
Exchange difference	<u>5,490</u>	<u>6,140</u>	-	<u>11,630</u>
Total	<u>821,964</u>	<u>586,747</u>	<u>396,742</u>	<u>1,805,453</u>

(vi) Maturity analysis

Current	-	-
Non-current	<u>1,805,453</u>	-
	<u>1,805,453</u>	-

The Central Bank of Liberia received from the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning US\$15.3 million as support for its operational activities in implementing the currency reform Project. The project has three years span for implementation from 2021 to 2024.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

29. Market instruments

	2022	2021
Principal	6,475,217	6,134,576
Accrued interest	64,101	111,586
Gross amount	6,539,318	6,246,162

The Central Bank reintroduced the CBL Bill in 2019. These are securities issued by the Bank to all registered businesses, and licensed financial institutions within Liberia, as well as the public. The instrument is issued by the Bank for monetary policy purposes and is shown as a liability of the Bank. The Bills have a maturity period of one year or less.

30. Provident fund obligation

	2022	2021
At January 1	861,562	899,201
Contributions during the year	56,739	54,437
Interest earned	14,891	310
Payments	(55,577)	(61,923)
Exchange difference	125,021	(30,463)
At December 31	1,002,636	861,562

Provident Fund is a long-term staff benefit. Staff contributes 5% of their gross salary to the fund and the Bank in addition contributes 5% to the fund for each staff.

A legislative Act, approved on June 6, 1961, “Requiring payment of retirement pensions to employees” added part V, Chapter 26 in the Labor Practices Law to provide for retirement pensions. The last amendment to the Scheme’s rules occurred in December 2012. CBL has not established a formal pension scheme, however the provisions under the Labor Practices Act create a defined benefit obligation on CBL to provide post-employment benefits (pensions) for its retiring employees.

The Scheme is a Defined Benefit Scheme which provides for retirement benefits in Liberian dollar (indexed to the US dollar) to retirees until death. An employee is entitled to receive from his/her employment retirement pension on retirement from an undertaking at the age of 60 and if such an employee has completed at least fifteen years of continuous service or he may retire at any age after he/she has completed twenty-five years of continuous service in such undertaking.

The annual pensions payable at retirement of a member from the employment of the Bank represent a percentage (40%) of final five-year average salary, independent of the number of years employed with the bank. Membership is compulsory for eligible employees, and members are required to sign an undertaking to be bound by the conditions and regulations under the scheme. The law states that one-twelfth of the annual amount shall be paid each month from the time of retirement until death of the employee, yet in practice, lump sum payments are made to retiring employees. Because of this practice, currently all scheme participants are in active employment with no members receiving monthly pensions.

In the absence of any high-quality bonds in Liberia, the present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by discounting the projected cash outflows using the average rates of return on US corporate bonds, since the obligation is quoted in United States dollars.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

31. Retirement benefit obligation

Under the Labor Practices Law, the Bank is to provide retirement benefits to its employees on retirement from an undertaking at the age of 60 and if such an employee has completed at least fifteen years of continuous service or retirement at any age if the employee has completed twenty-five years of continuous service in such an undertaking. CBL has not established a formal pension scheme, however the provisions under the Labor Practices Act create a defined benefit obligation on CBL to provide postemployment benefits (pensions) for its retiring employees.

Key assumptions have been made by management in determining the actual liability of the post-employment benefits. The liability for postemployment benefits is sensitive to the assumptions made.

In Liberia there is limited data available on which to make actuarial assessments, including the assumptions necessary. In particular details of mortality are not available and there are not long-term securities benchmark discount rates. Furthermore, there is limited experience of staff turnover patterns at CBL. These factors make the actuarial assumptions unusual and uncertain. Management has solicited and received professional actuarial advice in determining the assumptions and the quantum of the liability.

	2022	2021
Retirement benefits obligation	2,507,600	2,334,009

The movement in the defined benefit obligation is as follows:

At January 1	2,334,009	2,103,333
<i>Included in profit or loss</i>		
Current service cost	297,648	369,887
Interest cost	78,500	90,993
	376,148	460,880
<i>Included in other comprehensive</i>		
Actuarial (gain)/loss from change in assumptions	164,370	361,200
Actuarial (gain)/loss - Experience adjustment	(500,295)	(244,967)
	(335,925)	116,233
<i>Other</i>		
Benefit paid	(22,184)	(55,977)
Exchange difference	155,551	(290,460)
	133,367	(346,437)
At December 31	2,507,600	2,334,009

The principal actuarial assumptions used were as follows:

	2022	2021
Discount rate	3%	4%
Rate of Salary Increase	2%	2%

The mortality assumption is based on 1983 US Unisex Group Annuity Mortality with 10% loading. The Mortality assumption remains the same as the prior year.

The most recent actuarial valuations of the defined benefit obligation were carried out on behalf of the Bank by Stallion Trust & Administration Company Limited as of 31 December 2022.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

31. Retirement benefit obligation (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

Reasonably possible changes at the reporting date to any of the relevant actuarial assumptions, holding other assumptions constant, would have affected the defined benefit obligation by the following amounts shown below:

The principal actuarial assumptions used were as follows:

	31 December 2022		31 December 2021	
	Increase	Decrease	Increase	Decrease
Discount rate (1% movement)	401,369	(516,924)	385,095	(500,898)
Rate of salary increase (1% movement)	(182,665)	152,412	(169,068)	145,340

Although the analysis does not take account of the full distribution of cash flows expected under the plans, it does provide an approximation of the sensitivity of the assumptions shown.

32. Equity

(a) Share capital

	2022	2021
Authorized capital	2,000,000	2,000,000
Paid-in capital	7,398,587	7,398,587
Subscribed capital	200,000	200,000
	7,598,587	7,598,587

The capital of CBL is owned exclusively by the Government of Liberia. The minimum authorized capital of CBL is L\$2 billion as amended on October 20, 2020. The amount may be increased by an amendment to the CBL Act, as shall be proposed by the Board of Governors to the National legislature. The amended Act requires the Bank to have a minimum paid-up capital of L\$500 million. The consideration for the paid-up capital was the net book value of assets and liabilities taken over from National Bank of Liberia on the establishment of the CBL. In addition, the GOL subscribed a further US\$5 million (L\$200 million) at the establishment of CBL to have it capitalized. The consideration was a series of promissory notes.

(b) General reserve

This represents the residual cumulative annual profits/(losses).

(c) Translation reserve

Translation reserve comprises all foreign currency differences arising from the translation of the financial statements from their functional currency of US\$ into their presentation currency of LRD\$.

(d) Other reserve

Other reserve comprise the cumulative actuarial gains/losses recognized in the valuation of employee benefits.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

33. Cash and cash equivalents

	2022	2021
Cash and balances with other central banks (Note 13)	40,346,531	25,482,638
Cash and balances with commercial banks (Note 14)	1,722,557	1,690,466
Investment securities (Note 17)	-	3,578,193
	42,069,088	30,751,297

34. Contingent liabilities

There were a number of legal proceedings outstanding against the Bank as at 31 December 2022 with contingent liabilities of L\$ 2,808 million (2021: L\$ 2,444 million). The contingent liabilities above relate to a number of outstanding cases. The disclosure of the individual cases in the financial statements is not practicable. No provision in relation to these claims has been recognised in the financial statements as legal advice indicates that it is not probable that a significant liability will arise. The cases are mainly brought against the Bank in relation to the performance of its functions as a Central Bank, for contracts entered into by the Bank and dissatisfied employees alleging wrongful dismissal.

35. Financial guarantee

The Central Bank issued financial guarantee to LOITA Capital Partners International Limited on behalf of the Government of Liberia in respect of bonds and notes issued to LOITA for an amount of L\$7,725 million. The purpose of the notes was to reduce and eliminate the Government's arrears to the National Social Security and Welfare Corporation ("NASSCORP") in respect of pension contribution obligation for public sector employees.

The Central Bank also issued another financial guarantee to African Export-Import Bank ("Afrexim") on behalf of the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning for the benefit of NASSCORP. The amount of L\$3,862 million was to enable NASSCORP to finance investment in critical areas of the economy.

A financial guarantee of L\$3,862million was issued by the Central Bank to Afrexim on behalf of the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning for the benefit of NASSCORP to settle pension arrears owed NASSCORP in keeping with the Government's financial systems stability objectives.

Another financial guarantee of L\$11,688 million was issued by the Central Bank of Liberia to seven (7) local commercial banks on behalf of the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning to settle loan arrears of the Government of Liberia to the local commercial banks.

	2022	2021
Gross value of financial guarantee	27,137,657	25,534,455
Impairment provision	649,794	271,822

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All amounts are expressed in thousands of Liberian dollars unless otherwise stated)

36. Related party transactions

CBL is the official depository and fiscal agent of the Government of Liberia, the sole shareholder of the Bank. The Bank performs official banking services for the Government and a number of its agencies. Related party transactions reflected in the Bank's operations are therefore in respect of these banking services, in addition to loans and advances granted to the Government prior to 2003. The following transactions were carried out with related parties:

Interest income earned during the year

	2022	2021
Government of Liberia loans and advances (Note 6)	2,968,410	3,204,790
Government of Liberia investment securities (Note 6)	52,235	135,797
	3,020,645	3,340,587

Receivable from related party:

Due from Government of Liberia - Long-term loan (Note 16)	101,147,085	84,249,104
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Payable to related party:

Due to Government of Liberia and agencies (Note 26)	18,054,662	13,911,696
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Governors, Non-Executive Directors and other key management personnel

The following particulars relate to key management personnel including Board of Governors, Executive Governors and Directors, Loans to key management personnel were as follows:

	2022	2021
Loan outstanding at January 1	146,715	119,812
Loans granted during period	103,231	75,055
Loans repaid during the period	(62,373)	(38,407)
Exchange difference	(21,969)	(9,745)
Loan outstanding at December 31	165,604	146,715
Interest income earned	6,497	4,721

None of the key management personnel had a material interest, directly or indirectly, at any time during the year in any other significant transaction or arrangement with CBL.

	2022	2021
Salaries and short-term benefits	375,949	350,024
Post-employment benefit	4,251	49,210
	380,200	399,234

37. Events after reporting date

There was no significant event after the report period. Despite the easing of COVID 19, uncertainty remained and the Ukraine-Russia war as well as tightening financial conditions in response to high global inflation rate requires management to continue to assess the impact of the pandemic and the war on the Banks operations and the economy.