Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
Annual Report, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

In Summary:

- The backdrop in which the Central Bank operated in FY2017/18 was relatively stable but challenging. Nevertheless, the Central Bank significantly progressed most of its strategic initiatives.
- Multi-year supervisory plans for commercial banks were established and greater focus was placed on the sharing of information and analysis of regional entities with other regulators.
- A National Financial Education Committee was established to build concrete financial literacy programmes nationwide.
- Enterprise-wide risk assessment procedures and the cyber security framework were fortified.

MONETARY POLICY

STREAMLINE CURRENCY ISSUE AND BANKING OPERATIONS

- The 1¢ coin was demonetised in July 2018.
- 30Mn 1¢ coins were redeemed and recycled.
- Currency in circulation stood at $8.78Bn at end September 2018.
- 69Mn new notes were issued.

ENHANCE MANAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RESERVES

- New Strategic Asset Allocation Plan for the international reserve portfolio was developed, with a key change being a reduction in investments in sovereign bonds.
- Net Official Reserves stood at US$7.58Bn or 8.1 months of import cover.
- 1.35% return on investment, up from 0.83% in FY2016/17.

FINANCIAL STABILITY

IMPROVE GOVERNANCE STANDARDS

- Worked in collaboration with the FIU to strengthen the AML/CFT legislative and regulatory framework for the financial and non-financial sector.

IMPROVE RISK-BASED SUPERVISION

- Assessed financial institutions’ implementation of IFRS 9.
- Issued a Code of Practice for Central Bank’s engagement with external auditors of financial institutions.
- Expanded supervisory cooperation and information sharing with regional regulators with two bilateral MOUs.

INTERNAL OPERATIONS

- Conducted Bank-wide Risk Assessment Programme.
- Amended staff rotation policy and revised and implemented the promotions policy.
- Participated in constituting the National Financial Education Committee.