



CENTRALE BANK VAN ARUBA

Statistical News Release

Date: May 6, 2022

The official reserves of the Centrale Bank van Aruba increased during the first quarter of 2022

In the first quarter of 2022, foreign exchange transactions settled through the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) resulted in a net purchase by the CBA of Afl. 357.1 million of foreign exchange, compared to a net sale of Afl. 36.8 million of foreign exchange in the first quarter of 2021. This outcome was attributed largely to transactions with the government. These transactions led to a net foreign exchange purchase of Afl. 280.8 million in the quarter under review, which was Afl. 252.3 million higher than in the corresponding quarter of 2021. In addition, transactions with the commercial banks resulted in a net foreign exchange purchase of Afl. 70.5 million, compared to a net foreign exchange sale of Afl. 68.2 million in the same quarter of 2021. Net purchase of foreign exchange from transactions with other clients grew by Afl. 2.9 million to Afl. 5.8 million. Consequently, the official reserves of the CBA, including other changes not related to foreign exchange transactions, increased by Afl. 317.1 million to Afl. 3,062.0 million at the end of March 2022 (see Table 1 and Chart 1).

Table 1: Factors affecting CBA's official reserves¹

(in Afl. million)

	Q1-2020	Q1-2021	Q1-2022
I. Reserves at beginning of period	1,784.8	2,208.6	2,744.9
II. Net purchases/sales (-) of foreign exchange	69.9	-36.8	357.1
Of which from/to:			
1. Commercial banks	145.9	-68.2	70.5
2. Government	-86.0	28.5	280.8
3. Other clients	10.0	2.9	5.8
III. Other changes ²	16.6	-53.2	-40.0
IV. Reserves at ending of period (I+II+III)	1,871.3	2,118.6	3,062.0
V. Change in official reserves during period (IV-I)	86.6	-90.0	317.1

Source: Centrale Bank van Aruba

¹ Including valuation changes.

² Include valuation changes related to revaluation of gold, foreign exchange and security holdings and statistical differences.

DISCLAIMER: No part of this publication may be reproduced, copied, stored in, or introduced into a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means (electronic, digital, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise) without prior written permission from the Centrale Bank van Aruba.

On a gross basis, the CBA's total foreign exchange purchases increased by Afl. 326.5 million to Afl. 479.7 million in the first quarter of 2022, compared to the same quarter of 2021 (Table 2 and Chart 1). This expansion was caused mainly by a growth of Afl. 292.0 million in purchases of foreign exchange from the government, due mainly to foreign borrowing from the Netherlands. In addition, foreign exchange purchases from the commercial banks rose by Afl. 31.6 million to Afl. 107.9 million.

The total foreign exchange sales of the CBA decreased by Afl. 67.4 million to Afl. 122.6 million, mainly because of a decline in foreign exchange sales to the commercial banks of Afl. 107.1 million to Afl. 37.4 million. On the other hand, foreign exchange sales to the government expanded by Afl. 39.7 million to Afl. 82.9 million, largely resulting from higher foreign debt services payments.

Table 2: Foreign exchange transactions

(in Afl. million)

	Q1-2020	Q1-2021	Q1-2022
I. Total purchases of foreign exchange	229.2	153.2	479.7
<i>Of which from:</i>			
1. Commercial banks	217.9	76.3	107.9
2. Government	0.0	71.7	363.7
3. Other clients	11.3	5.3	8.1
II. Total sales of foreign exchange	159.3	190.0	122.6
<i>Of which to:</i>			
1. Commercial banks	72.1	144.5	37.4
2. Government	86.0	43.2	82.9
3. Other clients	1.2	2.4	2.3
III. Net purchases/sales (-) of foreign exchange	69.9	-36.8	357.1
IV. Net purchases/sales (-) from/to commercial banks	145.9	-68.2	70.5
V. Net purchases/sales (-) from/to government	-86.0	28.5	280.8
VI. Net purchases/sales (-) from/to other clients	10.0	2.9	5.8

Source: Centrale Bank van Aruba

General note to the tables:

Owing to rounding of figures, the sum of separate items may differ in the final digit from the total shown.

Chart 1: Net purchases/sales (-) of foreign exchange

