BANK OF BEIRUT S.A.L.

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

BANK OF BEIRUT S.A.L.
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Shareholders
Bank of Beirut S.A.L.
Beirut, Lebanon

Adverse Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Bank of Beirut S.A.L. (the "Bank") and its subsidiaries (the "Group") which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023, and the consolidated statement of profit or loss, the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of material accounting policies.

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matters described in the Basis for Adverse Opinion section of our audit report, the accompanying consolidated financial statements do not present fairly the consolidated financial position of the Group as at December 31, 2023, and its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs").

Basis for Adverse Opinion

1. As disclosed in Note 1.3.2 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements, the Group has not applied the requirements of IAS 29 'Financial Reporting in Hyperinflationary Economies' in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023. IAS 29 requires that the financial statements, and corresponding figures for previous periods, of an entity with a functional currency that is hyperinflationary, to be stated in the terms of the measuring unit current at the end of the reporting period. Had the Group applied the requirements of IAS 29 many elements of the accompanying consolidated financial statements, including disclosures, would have been significantly impacted. The effects on the consolidated financial statements of this departure have not been determined.

2. As disclosed in Note 1.3.1 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements, the Group has translated transactions and monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies, to the Bank's functional currency in accordance with the accounting policy on foreign currency transactions described in Note 3, using the official published exchange rates. As described in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, other exchange rates and exchange mechanisms were introduced by the Central Bank of Lebanon during the year ended December 31, 2023, which differ significantly from the official published exchange rates. In translating transactions and monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies, the group did not determine the exchange rate at which future cash flows or balances could have been settled or collected if those cash flows had occurred at the measurement date, which constitutes a departure from IFRSs. Had the Group translated transactions and monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the exchange rate at which future cash flows or balances could have been settled or collected if those cash flows had occurred at the measurement date, many elements of the accompanying consolidated financial statements, including disclosures, would have been materially impacted. The effects on the consolidated financial statements of this departure have not been determined.

3. As further disclosed in note 1 to the financial statements, this situation of economic and financial crisis driven by a banking systemic risk and which has been prolonged in the absence of a meaningful government reform plan, indicates that a material uncertainty exists for business continuity in relation to the Lebanese operations of the parent bank that may impact adversely its ability to continue as a going concern.

4. Cash and deposits with central banks and investment securities at amortized cost which are carried in the consolidated statement of financial position net of expected credit losses at LBP73,498billion and LBP12,102billion respectively (2022: LBP9,188billion and LBP2,847billion respectively), include balances held with the Central Bank of Lebanon and Lebanese government debt securities of LBP73,183billion and LBP1,070billion respectively (2022: LBP9,005billion and LBP718billion respectively). These balances were not stated net of allowances for expected credit losses which take into account the significant deterioration in credit quality since initial recognition which has arisen as a result of the continuing economic crisis in Lebanon and the government default on Eurobonds, which constitutes a departure from IFRSs. We were unable to determine the adjustments necessary to these amounts.

5. Loans and advances to customers, which are carried in the consolidated statement of financial position net of expected credit losses at LBP27,996billion (2022: LBP3,533billion), include balances concentrated in Lebanon of LBP2,368billion (2022: LBP1,240billion). Balances concentrated in Lebanon has not been stated net of an allowance for expected credit losses which takes into account the full impact of the economic crisis and political turmoil in Lebanon, which constitutes a departure from IFRSs. We were unable to determine the adjustments necessary to this amount.

6. Provisions which are carried in the consolidated statement of financial position at LBP 508 billion (2022: LBP 108 billion), includes a provision for risks and charges of LBP 193 billion (2022: LBP 13 billion) and a provision for staff and executive management termination indemnity of LBP 210 billion (2022: LBP 61 billion) . The assumptions used in calculating and estimating these provisions are subject to high uncertainties due to the prevailing financial and economic situation in Lebanon as mentioned in note 1 to the financial statements, that expose the Bank to increased litigation and regulatory risks. Consequently, we were unable to determine whether any adjustments to the calculation of these estimates were necessary.

   Moreover, it includes a provision for expected credit losses on financial guarantees and other commitments of LBP 57 billion (2022: LBP 3 billion). The allowance for expected credit losses on financial guarantees and other commitments which takes into account the full impact of the economic crisis and political turmoil in Lebanon has not been stated, which constitutes a departure from IFRSs. We were unable to determine the adjustments necessary to this amount. Our opinion in the prior year was also modified in respect of this matter.

7. Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss and investment securities at fair value through other comprehensive income which are carried in the consolidated statement of financial position at LBP913billion (2022: LBP18billion) and LBP25billion (2022: LBP15billion) respectively, include investment securities of LBP906billion (2022: LBP18billion) and LBP25billion (2022: LBP15billion) respectively, which are issued by the Lebanese government, the Central Bank of Lebanon and corporate entities domiciled in Lebanon. The aforementioned financial assets were stated at fair value by using inputs into the determination of fair value which are not indicative of economic reality and market conditions existing in Lebanon at the reporting date, which constitutes a departure from IFRSs. We were unable to determine the adjustments necessary to these amounts.

8. The fair value of the financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost were not disclosed, which constitutes a departure from IFRSs. We were unable to determine the amounts that should have been disclosed in the financial statements.

   Our opinion in the prior year was also modified in respect of the above matters.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the *International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (IESBA Code) together with the Code of Ethics of the Lebanese Association of Certified Public Accountants that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our adverse opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

We draw attention to the following:

As a result of the change in the official exchange rate USD/LBP from 1,507.5 to 15,000 effective February 01, 2023, the comparability of accounts and transactions denominated in foreign currencies and converted into LBP is not possible.

Our adverse opinion is not further modified in respect of the above matter.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023. Except for the matters described in the '*Basis for adverse opinion*' section of our report, we have determined that there are no other key audit matters to communicate in our report.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

The Board of Directors and those charged with governance (referred to thereafter as "Management") are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRSs, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Group'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 management either intends to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.
Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' 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 consolidated financial statements.

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated 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 Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's 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 Group'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 auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision, and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

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.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period 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.

Beirut, Lebanon
August 14, 2024

DFK Fiduciaire du Moyen-Orient

Sarkis Sakr & Partners

Sarkis Sakr & Partners
An independent member of
Geneva Group International

BANK OF BEIRUT S.A.L.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	Notes	December 31, 2023 LBP'000	December 31, 2022 LBP'000
Cash and deposits at central banks	5	73,497,838,563	9,188,193,164
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	6	6,311,340,196	506,740,556
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	7	912,679,302	18,191,769
Loans to banks	8	1,462,043,618	217,901,320
Loans and advances to customers	9	27,995,915,447	3,532,678,503
Loans and advances to related parties	10	319,636,769	41,029,545
Investment securities at fair value through other comprehensive income	11	24,893,120	14,873,755
Investment securities at amortized cost	11	12,102,134,697	2,846,719,277
Customers' liability under acceptances	12	87,995,871	8,363,910
Investments in associates	13	14,022,071	35,206,808
Assets acquired in satisfaction of loans	14	150,486,330	61,623,465
Assets held for sale	15	570,000,000	-
Property and equipment	16	8,755,525,278	305,713,083
Goodwill	17	87,034,435	87,034,435
Right-of-use assets	18	62,777,534	16,193,817
Other assets	19	594,640,507	274,822,102
Total Assets		132,948,963,738	17,155,285,509
Financial instruments with off-balance sheet risks			
Letters of guarantee and standby letters of credit	46	3,292,527,247	454,484,278
Documentary and commercial letters of credit	46	1,034,487,880	141,143,183
Notional amount of interest rate swap	46	79,025,100	17,216,580
Forward exchange contracts	46	(464,779)	259,774
Fiduciary accounts	47	2,258,149,161	174,600,427

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

BANK OF BEIRUT S.A.L.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(Continued)

LIABILITIES	Notes	December 31, 2023 LBP'000	December 31, 2022 LBP'000
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	20	5,200,481,367	717,731,215
Deposits from customers and related parties	21	107,171,297,736	14,013,103,711
Liabilities under acceptance	12	88,104,793	8,411,573
Other borrowings	22	2,151,151,844	562,423,470
Certificates of deposit	23	6,706,685	610,339
Lease liability	18	104,370,191	18,440,876
Other liabilities	24	1,296,169,149	346,333,764
Provisions	25	507,663,346	107,770,218
Total liabilities		116,525,945,111	15,774,825,166
EQUITY			
Common share capital	26	89,055,474	89,055,474
Share premiums	26	143,800,495	143,800,495
Preferred shares	27	844,124,625	844,124,625
Shareholders' cash contribution to capital	28	1,403,269,365	208,683,086
Reserves	29	8,200,124,074	964,394,319
Accumulated losses		(795,252,277)	(280,966,578)
Investment revaluation reserve		16,102,227	6,872,916
Treasury shares	30	(5,469,266)	(5,469,266)
Foreign currency translation reserve		7,124,891,166	494,740
Loss for the year	44	(617,850,350)	(593,576,042)
Equity attributable to the equity holders of the Bank		16,402,795,533	1,377,413,769
Non-controlling interests	31	20,223,094	3,046,574
Total equity		16,423,018,627	1,380,460,343
Total Liabilities and Equity		132,948,963,738	17,155,285,509

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

BANK OF BEIRUT S.A.L.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS

	Notes	Year Ended December 31, 2023 LBP'000	2022 LBP'000
Interest income	33	3,740,966,012	953,311,365
Less: tax on interest	33	(122,960,894)	(69,355,870)
Interest income, net of tax		3,618,005,118	883,955,495
Interest expense	34	(940,876,037)	(148,755,364)
Net interest income		2,677,129,081	735,200,131
Fee and commission income	35	1,593,844,646	173,770,353
Fee and commission expense	36	(167,402,396)	(143,664,598)
Net fee and commission income		1,426,442,250	30,105,755
Net interest and other (losses)/gains on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	37	(2,927,600,540)	877,701
Gain/(Loss) on derecognition of financial assets at amortized cost	5 & 11	817,202	(23,920,506)
Other operating income/(loss) (net)	38	955,941,380	(854,611,343)
Net financial revenues/(losses)		2,132,729,373	(112,348,262)
Allowance for expected credit losses (net)	39	(108,988,285)	(1,673,300)
Other provisions (net)	40	(94,088,506)	(5,265,334)
Net financial revenues/(losses) after impairment charges		1,929,652,582	(119,286,896)
Staff cost	41	(1,298,468,033)	(272,489,989)
General and administrative expenses	42	(904,334,798)	(167,430,066)
Depreciation and amortization	43	(101,290,633)	(27,764,942)
Loss before income tax		(374,440,882)	(586,971,893)
Income tax expense	24	(163,863,670)	(5,734,622)
Deferred tax on undistributed profit		(62,369,278)	(736,418)
Loss for the year		(600,673,830)	(593,442,933)
Attributable to:			
Equity holders of the Bank	44	(617,850,350)	(593,576,042)
Non-controlling interests	31	17,176,520	133,109
		(600,673,830)	(593,442,933)
Basic Loss per share in LBP	45	LBP (9,877)	LBP (9,758)
Diluted Loss per share in LBP	45	LBP (9,877)	LBP (9,758)

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Notes	Year Ended December 31, 2023 LBP'000	2022 LBP'000
Loss for the year		(600,673,830)	(593,442,933)
Other comprehensive income:			
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:			
Foreign currency translation adjustment related to foreign operations		7,124,396,426	(18,439,698)
Change in fair value of treasury shares		-	(2,683)
Change in fair value of securities		9,232,427	-
Change in fair value of cash flow hedge		4,115,141	(1,391,626)
		7,137,743,994	(19,834,007)
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:			
Gain on property revaluation		7,234,294,364	-
		7,234,294,364	-
Total other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year		14,372,038,358	(19,834,007)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year		13,771,364,529	(613,276,940)
Attributable to:			
Equity holders of the Bank		13,754,188,008	(613,410,049)
Non-controlling interests		17,176,520	133,109
		13,771,364,528	(613,276,940)

BANK OF BEIRUT S.A.L.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

	Common Share Capital LBP'000	Share Premiums LBP'000	Non-Cumulative Preferred Shares LBP'000	Shareholders' Cash Contribution to Capital LBP'000	Owned Building Revaluation Surplus LBP'000	Investment Revaluation Reserve LBP'000	Reserve for Assets Acquired in in Satisfaction of Loans LBP'000	Reserves and Retained Earnings LBP'000	Treasury Shares LBP'000	Currency Translation Adjustment LBP'000	(Loss)/ Profit for the year LBP'000	Equity attributable to the Equity Holders of the Bank LBP'000	Non-Controlling Interests LBP'000	Total LBP'000
Balance at December 31, 2021	89,055,474	143,800,495	844,124,625	208,683,086	1,668,934	6,871,784	12,316,250	684,572,602	(5,466,583)	18,934,438	5,587,909	2,010,149,014	2,981,429	2,013,130,443
Allocation of 2021 loss	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,900,083	3,687,826	-	-	(5,587,909)	-	-	-
Reclassification from free reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	(870,626)	870,626	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prior year adjustment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(109,445)	-	-	-	(109,445)	-	(109,445)
Effect of exchange difference	-	-	-	-	-	1,132	-	(19,216,883)	-	-	-	(19,215,751)	-	(19,215,751)
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(67,964)	(67,964)
Total comprehensive loss for the year 2022	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,391,626)	(2,683)	(18,439,698)	(593,576,042)	(613,410,049)	133,109	(613,276,940)
Balance at December 31, 2022	89,055,474	143,800,495	844,124,625	208,683,086	1,668,934	6,872,916	13,345,707	668,413,100	(5,469,266)	494,740	(593,576,042)	1,377,413,769	3,046,574	1,380,460,343
Allocation of 2022 loss	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,796,866	(595,372,908)	-	-	593,576,042	-	-	-
Reclassification from free reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	(366,355)	366,355	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cash contribution to capital				1,194,586,279								1,194,586,279		1,194,586,279
Effect of exchange difference	-	-	-	-	-	(3,116)	-	76,610,593	-	-	-	76,607,477	-	76,607,477
Total comprehensive income for the year 2023	-	-	-	-	7,234,294,364	9,232,427	-	4,115,141	-	7,124,396,426	(617,850,350)	13,754,188,008	17,176,520	13,771,364,528
Balance at December 31, 2023	89,055,474	143,800,495	844,124,625	1,403,269,365	7,235,963,298	16,102,227	14,776,218	154,132,281	(5,469,266)	7,124,891,166	(617,850,350)	16,402,795,533	20,223,094	16,423,018,627

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

BANK OF BEIRUT S.A.L.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	Notes	Year Ended December 31, 2023 LBP'000	2022 LBP'000
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Loss for the year		(600,673,830)	(593,442,933)
Adjustments for:			
Income tax expense	24	163,863,670	5,734,622
Adjustments for Assets reclassified as assets held for sale		(491,389,888)	-
Value adjustment under leverage arrangement	5	-	(80,400,000)
Depreciation and amortization	43	101,290,633	27,764,943
Allowance for expected credit losses (Net)	39	108,988,285	1,673,300
Deferred tax on profits for distribution	24	74,550,364	1,222,347
Finance cost on lease liability	42	4,913,093	1,022,990
Unrealized loss on assets at fair value through profit or loss	37	2,951,430,277	426,625
Gain on sale of assets acquired in satisfaction of loans	38	(348,407)	(1,905,281)
Gain/(Loss) on sale of property and equipment	38	(153,760)	6,713
Share in profits of an associate	38	(5,101,788)	(6,665,554)
Provision for end of service indemnity for employees	25	113,988,489	40,034,649
Other provisions		263,434,963	3,529,728
Other adjustments and effect of difference on exchange		5,894,115,592	(30,652,117)
		8,578,907,693	(631,649,968)
Net (increase)/decrease in financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		(3,845,850,031)	54,195,593
Net (increase) in loans to banks		(1,239,874,147)	(34,597,499)
Net (increase)/decrease in loans and advances to customers	49	(24,231,786,315)	1,047,796,298
Net (increase)/decrease in loans and advances to related parties		(278,607,223)	3,254,789
Net (increase)/decrease in cash and deposits with central banks		(33,961,669,525)	1,517,815,454
Net (increase)/decrease in deposits with banks and financial institutions		(1,608,868,974)	6,193,848
Net (increase)/decrease in investment securities		(9,486,450,776)	533,440,573
Net (increase) in other assets	49	(359,016,068)	(96,478,424)
Net (decrease)/increase in deposits from banks and financial institutions		(299,494,749)	188,431,844
Net increase in other liabilities	49	711,421,351	1,901,220
Net increase/(decrease) in deposits from customers and related parties		93,158,194,025	(484,926,662)
Settlement of end-of-service indemnity	25	(1,035,515)	(2,855,741)
Net cash generated from operating activities		27,135,869,746	2,102,521,325
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Acquisition of Property and equipment	16	(40,091,406)	(15,871,841)
Proceeds from sale of assets acquired in satisfaction of loans		718,532	4,991,044
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment		277,386	68,330
Net cash used in investing activities		(39,095,488)	(10,812,465)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Increase in treasury shares		-	(2,683)
Increase in cash contribution to capital	28	1,194,586,278	-
Increase / (Decrease) in other borrowings		1,588,728,374	(112,347,799)
Increase / (Decrease) in certificates of deposit		6,096,346	(59,529)
Payment of lease liabilities	18	(19,088,618)	(4,715,901)
Net cash generated from/(used in) financing activities		2,770,322,380	(117,125,912)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		29,867,096,638	1,974,582,947
Cash and cash equivalents - Beginning of year	49	5,033,498,592	3,058,915,645
Cash and cash equivalents - End of year	49	34,900,595,230	5,033,498,592

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Bank of Beirut S.A.L. (the "Bank") is a Lebanese joint stock company listed on the Beirut stock exchange, registered under number 13187 in the Lebanese commercial register and under number 75 on the list of banks published by the Central Bank of Lebanon. The Bank was established in Lebanon in 1963 and provides a full range of banking services and operates through a network of 42 branches (51 branches in 2022) throughout Lebanon with a focus in the city of Beirut and its suburbs. The Bank has a branch in Cyprus and 3 branches in the Sultanate of Oman, two subsidiary banks in the United Kingdom and Australia and representative office in Nigeria. Further information on the Group's structure is provided in Note 3(A). Information on other related party transactions of the Group is provided in Note 48.

The headquarters of Bank of Beirut S.A.L. are located in Fosh Street, Down Town Beirut, Lebanon.

1.1 The Macro Economic Environment

The Group's operations are mostly in Lebanon that has been witnessing, since 17 October 2019, severe events that have set off an interconnected fiscal, monetary and economic crisis, as well as deep recession that have reached unprecedented levels. Sovereign credit ratings have witnessed a series of downgrades by all major rating agencies and reached the level of default when, on 7 March 2020, the Lebanese Republic announced that it will withhold payment on the bonds due on 9 March 2020, which was followed by another announcement on 23 March 2020 for the discontinuation of payments on all of its US Dollar-denominated Eurobonds.

Throughout this sequence of events, the ability of the Lebanese Government and the banking sector in Lebanon to borrow funds from international markets was significantly affected. Banks have imposed unofficial capital controls, restricted transfers of foreign currencies outside Lebanon, significantly reduced credit lines to companies and withdrawals of cash to private depositors, all of which added to the disruption of the country's economic activity, as the economic model of Lebanon relies mainly on imports and consumption. Businesses are downsizing, closing or going bankrupt, and unemployment and poverty are rising fast and have reached unprecedented levels.

The difficulty in accessing foreign currencies led to the emergence of a parallel market to the peg whereby the price to access foreign currencies has been increasing constantly, deviating significantly from the peg of 1 USD = LBP 1,507.5 till 31 January 2023 and LBP 15,000 later on. This has resulted in an uncontrolled rise in prices and the incessant de facto depreciation of the Lebanese Lira, impacting intensely the purchasing power of Lebanese citizens, driving a currency crisis, high inflation and rise in the consumer price index.
In February 2023, the Central Bank of Lebanon changed the official published exchange rate from LBP 1,507.5 to LBP 15,000 to the US Dollar. In January 2024, the Central Bank of Lebanon changed the official published exchange rate from LBP 15,000 to LBP 89,500 to the US Dollar.

During 2020, in an attempt to control the high rise in prices and to compensate for the loss in the Lebanese people's purchasing power, the Central Bank of Lebanon, through several circulars, introduced the following measures:

a) Subsidized imports of essential goods (fuel oil, medicine and wheat) by providing foreign currencies for these imports at the rate of 1,507.5 USD/LBP (the official exchange rate). During 2021, this subsidy was lifted.
b) Introduced the Sayrafa Platform Rate to be used only in specific circumstances.
c) Subsidized imports of Tier 2 food basket products (e.g. coffee, tea, canned food, imported meat) by providing foreign currencies for these imports at the Platform Rate. During 2021, this subsidy was lifted.
d) Introduced exceptional measures for bank depositors to withdraw small amounts of cash in LBP from their "local" foreign currency bank accounts at the Platform Rate, but up to limits set by the Bank.

During May 2021, the Central Bank of Lebanon introduced the framework of exceptional measures for foreign-currency operations. Hence, banks operating in Lebanon must process customers' FX operations (buy and sell) related to their personal or commercial needs on the electronic platform "Sayrafa". Transactions with customers encompass purchase and sale of foreign currencies banknotes against LBP, as well as operations from/to foreign currencies external accounts against LBP. Sayrafa corresponds to a floating system and the Sayrafa average rate and volume of foreign currency operations are published on the website of the Central Bank of Lebanon.
However, despite these efforts, inflation increased at an accelerating pace, eroding the real value of the local currency and "local" foreign currency bank accounts (subject to unofficial capital controls), and tossing Lebanon in hyperinflation and major economic collapse.
In mid-2021, BDL Basic Circular 158 was issued defining the mechanism for the gradual settlement of foreign currency deposits up to an amount of USD 50,000 based on several eligibility criteria. Eligible funds will be transferred to a subaccount and paid on a monthly basis of USD 400 in cash or equivalent and an amount in LBP equivalent to USD 400 (amended later on to USD 300 for all contracts signed with customers after July 1, 2023 following the issuance of BDL intermediate circular 674 on July 5, 2023) and converted at a rate of LBP 12,000 to the US Dollar (before amendment at a rate of LBP 15,000 to the US Dollar on 20 January 2023) that will be paid 50% in cash and 50% credited to a payment card. The LBP portion was later on removed with the issuance of Intermediate Circular 674 issued on July 5, 2023.

As a result of the unofficial capital controls, the multitude of exchange rates, the hyperinflation, and the potential repercussions of government reform measures on (i) the banks operating in Lebanon, and (ii) the Lebanese people's net worth, their local businesses and their local bank accounts, the Lebanese market saw the need to differentiate between onshore assets and offshore assets, foreign currency bank accounts that are subject to unofficial capital controls and those that are not subject to capital controls, onshore liabilities and offshore liabilities. The need to differentiate is mostly due to the difference in the perceived real economic value. Hence the new terms in the Lebanese market, such as "local Dollars" to designate local US Dollars bank accounts that are subject to unofficial capital controls, and "fresh funds/accounts" to designate foreign currency cash and foreign currency bank accounts which are free from capital controls (as they are sourced from foreign currency cash and/or from incoming transfers from abroad).

Lebanese Government's Financial Recovery Plan

A financial recovery plan was ratified by the Cabinet on 20 May 2022. The document was passed by the Cabinet in its final session hours before losing decision-making powers, following the election of a new parliament on 15 May 2022.

Lebanon's government foresees cancelling "a large part" of the Central Bank's foreign currency obligations to commercial banks and dissolving non-viable banks by November, according to the Plan. The latter includes several measures that are prerequisites to unlock funds from a preliminary deal with the International Monetary Fund agreed in April, that could help pull the country out of a three-year financial meltdown.

The endorsed plan foresees a full audit of the Central Bank's forex financial standing by July. Then, the government "will cancel, at the outset, a large part of the Central Bank's foreign currency obligations to banks in order to reduce the deficit in BDL's capital", the document said. The largest 14 commercial banks, representing 83% of total assets, would also be audited. Viable banks would be recapitalized with "significant contributions" from banks' shareholders and large depositors.

The plan made no mention of a sovereign fund to manage state-owned assets but pledges to limit recourse to public assets, which had been a demand of Lebanon's commercial banks. The plan said it would protect small depositors "to the maximum extent possible" in each viable bank but did not lay out a minimum amount to be protected – unlike draft plans. Non-viable banks, however, would be dissolved by the end of November, it added. As of today, laws for the reinstatement of financial stability, for the resolution of banks and for capital controls are yet to be issued. The timeline for their issuance is affected by the presidential vacuum and political deadlock facing Lebanon. It also said the government would unify the official exchange rate, ending a system in which, the government offered various exchange rates for different operations.

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

The Lebanese authorities and the IMF team have reached a staff-level agreement (SLA) on comprehensive economic policies that could be supported by a 46-month Extended Fund Arrangement (EFF) with requested access of SDR 2,173.9 million (equivalent to about USD 3 billion). This agreement is subject to approval by IMF Management and the Executive Board, after the timely implementation of all prior actions and confirmation of international partners' financial support.

Prior actions include the following measures prior the IMF Board's consideration:

- Cabinet approval of a bank restructuring strategy that recognizes and addresses upfront the large losses in the sector, while protecting small depositors and limiting recourse to public resources.
- Parliament approval of an appropriate emergency bank resolution legislation which is needed to implement the bank restructuring strategy.
- Initiation of an externally assisted bank-by-bank evaluation for the 14 largest banks.
- Parliament approval of a reformed bank secrecy law to bring it in line with international standards.
- Completion of the special purpose audit of the BDL's foreign asset position.
- Cabinet approval of a medium-term fiscal and debt restructuring strategy.
- Parliament approval of the 2022 budget, to start regaining fiscal accountability.
- Unification by BDL of the exchange rates for authorized current account transactions.

The IMF issued in March 2023 the concluding statement of its 2023 Article IV Mission. It says Lebanon is at a particularly difficult juncture. Lebanon has been facing an unprecedented sovereign-banking-currency crisis, which is ongoing for more than three years. Since the onset of the crisis, the economy has contracted by about 40 percent, the Lebanese lira has lost 98 percent of its value, inflation has been at triple-digits, and the central bank has lost two thirds of its foreign exchange (FX) reserves.

Although the economy showed some signs of stabilization in 2022, it remains severely depressed. The stabilization was supported by the expiration of COVID measures, a rebound in tourism, strong remittances inflows, and a gradual improvement in terms of trade in the second half of the year. Still, high uncertainty, banking sector restrictions, and expensive and very limited electricity supply continue to hinder economic activity. Following the dramatic exchange rate depreciation in Q1 2023, cash dollarization increased, and inflation accelerated to 270 percent y-o-y in April 2023. The fiscal deficit is estimated to have widened to 5 percent of GDP in 2022, due to collapsing revenues. The current account deficit is estimated to have widened to almost 30 percent of GDP on account of surging imports, while foreign domestic investment (FDI) has remained depressed, as have been other financial inflows.

During the year 2023 the International Monetary Fund (IMF) warned that Lebanon's progress for reforms has been slow considering how complicated the situation is, adding, one would have expected more in terms of implementation and approval of the legislations, noting a very slow progress.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) concluded by stating its commitment to supporting Lebanon and continuing its engagement with authorities through policy advice and technical assistance. Still, this support will depend on Lebanon's implementation of a comprehensive reform program.

Maritime border demarcation agreement

The maritime border demarcation agreement between Lebanon and Israel was finalized in October 2022. The deal could enhance long-term economic prospects and improve the country's external position which is positive for Lebanon's credit profile, but implementation risks remain significant. International Rating Fitch disclosed that gas discoveries would generate important economic benefits for Lebanon, should the resources prove to be commercially viable. Moody's disclosed that the agreement is credit positive for Lebanon because it will help alleviate the country's chronic power deficit and kick-start an economic recovery. Such deals and initiatives are of a long term rather than imminent nature and the timing of the flow of economic benefit and positive development on Lebanon is uncertain.

Presidential vacuum

The presidential term has ended on 31 October 2022 without the election of a new President despite holding a number of electoral sessions that witness non-quorum in their second rounds. As such, Lebanon has entered a presidential vacuum since then, which has stalled cabinet formation, reforms and final IMF agreement.

It remains unclear how this will evolve, and the Group continues to monitor the situation closely. Any and all such events mentioned above will add up to the already material adverse prospects on the Group's business, financial condition, results of operations, prospects, liquidity and capital position.

1.2 Central Bank of Lebanon policy initiatives

Since the beginning of the crisis in October 2019, the Central Bank of Lebanon has issued a series of circulars reflecting on policy initiatives and crisis management. Below is brief of the key circulars:

Regulatory framework

- *Intermediate Circular 567:*
  - BDL licensees should apply the following minimum regulatory expected credit loss ("ECL") ratios, while permitting banks to constitute progressively those ECLs over a period of five years (starting from 2020). The BDL Central Council may consider the extension of the period to 10 years, for banks that manage to complete the 20% cash contribution to capital requirement:
    Foreign currency placements with BDL, including certificates of deposits: 1.89%
    Local currency deposits with BDL: 0%
    Lebanese government bonds in foreign currencies: 45% and later on increased to 75% in 2022.
    Lebanese treasury bills in local currency: 0%

    Intermediate circular 649 issued on 24 November 2022 replaced the aforementioned five years and ten years deadline by the fixed dates of 31 December 2026 and 31 December 2029 respectively.

  - BDL licensees are allowed not to downgrade loans exposures showing past dues (principal and interest) between February 2020 and December 2020 as a result of COVID-19, unless borrower ceases to operate as a going concern, in which case exposure should be automatically downgraded to Stage 3.

  - Prohibition of dividends distribution on banks' common shares for the years 2019 and 2020 (years 2021, 2022 and 2023 were subsequently added by way of Intermediate Circulars 616 and 659 and 676 respectively).

  - By February 28, 2022 (extended), banks should complete a 20% increase of the common equity tier I capital as at December 31, 2018. The BDL Central Council may consider for banks to complete 50% of this capital increase through transfer of real estate by the shareholders, provided these are liquidated within 5 years.

  - Banks can include the revaluation surplus of property and equipment in Tier I capital, subject to BDL approval on the revaluation. However, on January 20, 2023, Intermediate Circular 659 capped the inclusion of revaluation of fixed assets at 50% under certain conditions while allowing the use of the prevailing Sayrafa rate at the end of each reporting period over 5 years. Besides, it widened the scope of revaluation to include participations and long-term loans to affiliated banks and financial institutions. On December 28, 2023, the Intermediate Circular 685 permitted the inclusion of 75% of the revaluation surplus of fixed assets in the calculation of Tier I capital, while allowing the use of the BDL platform rate as at 30.06.2023 and at the end of each reporting period over 5 years.

  - Banks must comply with the minimum capital adequacy ratios. Bank should refrain from dividend distribution, should these ratios fall below 7% for common equity Tier I ratio; 10% for tier I ratio; and 12% for total capital ratio.

Furthermore, if the capital conservation buffer on common equity falls below 2.5% of risk weighted assets during 2020 and 2021, banks should rebuild the gap by end of 2024, by a minimum of 0.75% per year, starting 2022. Subsequently, on February 2, 2024, the Intermediate Circular 689 allowed a temporary full draw down of the 2.5% capital conservation buffer during years 2023 and 2024.

- Banks are required to submit to a comprehensive plan to Central Bank, reflecting own strategies to comply with the regulatory minimum capital requirements, including the timeline to achieve compliance. The plan should incorporate allowances required by the Banking Control Commission of Lebanon against different risks banks are exposed to.

- As exceptional measures, 100% of ECL on Stage 1 and Stage 2 exposures (except those against sovereign and BDL exposures in local and foreign currency), may be added to common equity Tier I capital. These will be gradually amortized to 75% in 2022, 50% in 2023 and 25% in 2024.

- *Basic Circular 154:*
  - Banks should perform a fair value assessment of their assets and liabilities and set a plan to comply with all applicable regulatory requirements, namely those related to liquidity and capital adequacy, and restore their levels of service which were in place before the economic crisis. Banks should also submit a request to the BDL Central Council to reconstitute/raise their capital to the required levels by the end of the first quarter of the year 2022, where applicable. In this respect, banks shall consider soliciting their depositors to convert their deposits into shares or bonds, provided listing the bank's shares on the Beirut Stock Exchange.

  - In order to enhance their offshore liquidity, banks are required to instigate those depositors to repatriate 30% (in the case of banks' key executives and politically exposed persons) and 15% (for other depositors) of their overseas transfers made since July 1, 2017 and exceeding the equivalent of USD 500,000. Funds received will be deposited in special saving accounts for 5 years and will not be subject to compulsory reserve requirements.

  - Banks should secure by February 28, 2021, offshore foreign currency deposits equivalent to a minimum of 3% of their total foreign currency as at July 31, 2020. The requirement was later amended through Intermediate Circular 645 to consider foreign currency deposits as at September 30, 2022 as the basis for the computation instead of July 31, 2020, thus lowering liquidity required levels as customers' deposits decreased over the period.

- Intermediate Circular 575 issued on 5 November 2020 states that Banks should book one third of the capital gains arising from the revaluation of fixed assets held in settlement of debt under Tier 2 capital based on the following binding conditions:
  - The Central Bank of Lebanon's Central Council investigating and approving at the expense of the concerned Group the validity of the revaluation process.
  - Raising the capital before 31 December 2021, as follows:
    - Add a maximum of one third of the revolution gains under Tier 2 capital.

- Increase Common Equity Tier 1 capital in cash by an amount at least equivalent to the amount of the revaluation gains booked under Tier 2 capital.

- Basic Circular 163 issued on 27 May 2022 defining the framework for the monitoring of public officials' accounts, the performance of due diligence on their operations and the reporting to the Special Investigation Committee on the basis of founded suspicion.

- Intermediate Circular 637 issued on 27 July 2022 (amending Basic Circulars 65 and 78) requiring Banks to sell real estate properties or participations acquired in accordance with the provisions of Article 153 or 154 of the of the Code of Money & Credit (CMC), only against fresh USD or its equivalent in LBP based on the Sayrafa rate.

- Basic Circular 164 issued on 12 October 2022 and requesting banks to report to the Banking Control Commission on the cost of their monthly operating expenses that should be paid with fresh money, the resources for settling these expenses and how to ensure those resources.

- Intermediate Circular 649 issued on November 24, 2022 (amending Basic Circulars 44 and 143) introduced a forbearance treatment in capital ratios computation by allowing the exclusion from Common Equity Tier 1 of a portion of losses incurred from FX purchases from BDL against LBP banknotes (66% and 33% respectively in 2022 and 2023).

- Intermediate Circular 667 issued on April 13, 2023 (amending Basic Circular 69) enhancing the framework of "Electronic Banking and Financial Operations" by introducing mainly new detailed rules applicable to E-signature, E-KYC and data protection, along with the related authorization processes from regulatory bodies.

<u>Monetary policies and socio-economic support:</u>

- Intermediate *Circular 648* issued on November 1, 2022 (amending Basic Circulars 14 and 67) reduced by 50% the interest rates served on foreign currencies placements with BDL and on Certificates of Deposit issued by BDL while continuing paying 50% of coupon payment in the instrument's currency and 50% in LBP at official rate (LBP1,507.5 to the US Dollar until 31 January 2023 and LBP15,000 to the US Dollar afterwards). This circular was later amended on 2 February 2024 by Intermediate Circular 686 increasing the interest rate reduction on foreign currencies placements with BDL and on Certificates of Deposit issued by BDL from 50% to 75% while limiting the coupon payment to be in FCY only.

- Basic *Circular 150* exempting banks from compulsory reserves requirements on fresh foreign currency deposits received after April 9, 2020, subject to conditions.

- *Intermediate Circulars 547 and 552* requesting banks to rollover loans to customers in local and foreign currencies maturing between March 2020 to June 2020 up to 5 years at zero interest rate and fees, subject to the bank assessment of the customers' inability to settle their dues because of the economic situation. BDL also allowed the extension of loans to businesses to fund salaries and operating expenses, at the same terms mentioned above. In return, BDL would extend loans to banks in USD at zero interest rates against those loans to banks' customers.

- *Basic Circular 152 and Intermediate Circular 569* allowing banks extension of loans up to 5 years at zero interest rate, to help those affected by the Beirut Seaport explosion. In return, BDL would extend loans to banks in USD at zero interest rates against those loans to banks' customers.

- *Intermediate Circular 568* requesting banks to accept repayment by resident customers of their USD denominated retail loans (up to USD 800,000 for housing loans and USD 100,000 for retail loans) in local currency at the official exchange rate (LBP1,507.5 to the USD). On 20 January 2023, Intermediate Circular 656 revoked the aforementioned provision effective 1 February 2023.

- Basic Circular 162 issued on 28 March 2022 requesting from Banks to secure a level of liquidity sufficient to allow public sector employees to withdraw their monthly salaries and other compensations without setting any type of limits.

- Basic Circular 165 issued on April 19, 2023 and requesting banks to open new accounts at BDL in LBP and in US$ specifically and exclusively for the "Cash Money" (i.e. money transferred from abroad and/or received as banknotes in foreign currencies after 17 November 2019 in addition to the money deposited or which will be deposited as banknotes in new accounts in LBP and which respect the conditions set in BDL basic circular 150 for "fresh money"). These new accounts will be used for the settlement, compensation & transfer operations through BDL National Payment System (BDL-NPS).

- Intermediate Circular 664 issued on March 28, 2023 (amending Basic Circular 81) requires banks to comply with article 863 of the Civil Procedure Law, which does not allow blocking partially or in full the wages and retirement pensions of employees, workers and servants and the salaries of civil servants, for the settlement of retail loans in foreign currencies except according to the ceilings set in the mentioned article. Banks were requested to reschedule retail loans provided in foreign currencies so that the related monthly settlements don't exceed the ceilings of article 863 nor 35% of the family income. On November 3, 2023, the Intermediate Circular 680 was issued and requested from banks to also comply with article 865 (in addition to article 863) of the Civil Procedure Law and article 860 of the same law on the prohibition of seizing the retirement pensions of civil servants.

- Intermediate Circular 690 issued on February 2, 2024 permitting the full inclusion in the regulatory equity of positive balance (gains) of Foreign Currency Translation Reserve noting that this equity is used for the computation of various regulatory ratios other than capital adequacy ratios (FX position, limit of placement with FI, Code of money credit ("CMC") 153 limit.

Foreign exchange policies

- Basic *Circular 151 "Cash Withdrawals from Foreign Currency Bank Accounts"* dated April 21, 2020 provides withdrawals of pre-crisis customers' deposits in foreign currencies with banks, at the rate of 3,900 LBP / USD, which was then increased to 8,000 LBP / USD and within a monthly limit of USD 3,000 by bank account. On January 20, 2023, Intermediate Circular 657 amended the rate to be USD/ LBP 15,000 instead of USD/ LBP 8,000 while reducing the limit from USD 3,000 per month to USD 1,600 per month. On July 5, 2023, Intermediate Circular 673 removed the maximum conversion amount of USD 1,600 per month per customer. However, BDL maintained its commitment to buy from the Bank a maximum amount of USD 1,600 per month per customer. At maturity as at 31 December 2023, the circular was not renewed.

- Basic Circular 157 *"Exceptional Procedures on Foreign currency Operations"* issued on May10, 2021 enacting the legal and regulatory framework of the Sayrafa foreign exchange trading platform developed by the Central Bank of Lebanon. Transactions that can be conducted on the 'Sayrafa' platform consist of purchasing LBP in exchange of fresh foreign currency and purchasing fresh foreign currency in exchange of LBP. The bid/ask spread that banks are allowed to achieve, is capped at 1% of the purchase price. The Central Bank of Lebanon may its sole discretion, interfere on the Platform to stabilize the exchange rate. The 'Sayrafa platform is not available for trading onshore pre-crisis foreign currency bank accounts as these are subject to unofficial capital control.

  The average daily trading exchange rates and daily volume of foreign currency traded on the Sayrafa platform are published on the Central Bank of Lebanon website.on

- Basic *Circular 158 "Exceptional Measures for the Gradual Withdrawal of Deposits in Foreign currencies"* issued on June 8, 2021 setting out an exceptional framework for the settlement of onshore foreign currency deposits up to an amount equivalent to USD 50,000. To benefit from the provisions of the said circular, certain eligibility criteria must be met. Customers' monthly entitlements are (i) an amount of USD 400 in cash or equivalent (transfer abroad, credited to a payment card with international usage, etc.) and (ii) an amount in LBP equivalent to USD 400 and converted at a rate USD/LBP 12,000 (before amendment USD/ LBP at 15,000 on 20 January 2023), noting that 50% of the amount will be paid in cash and 50% will be credited to a payment card. On July 5, 2023 the Intermediate Circular 674 introduced several amendments to the Basic Circular 158. First, it cancelled the amount in LBP that clients were able to withdraw on a monthly basis from their foreign currencies' accounts opened before October 31, 2019. Second, for the US Dollars portion, the monthly withdrawal remains unchanged at USD 400 per month from the outstanding balance of subaccount opened prior to 1 July 2023 when the client signed the agreement with the Bank based on the aforementioned circular. Third, for all subaccounts created after 30 June 2023, the monthly withdrawal limit is set at USD 300 per month.

  On November 17, 2023, BDL issued Intermediate Circular 682 adding eligibility criteria to benefit from Basic Circular 158; Customers who have transferred their funds after the crisis to another local Bank can benefit from the provisions of said circular if (i) transferred funds are returned to the originating bank, and if (ii) the customer hadn't benefited from the circular neither from the originating Bank, nor the destination Bank.

The financing of the aforementioned process will be secured equally through (i) BDL reduction of compulsory reserves requirements from 15% to 14% as per BDL Intermediary Circular 586 and (ii) the bank's offshore liquidity. To that end, banks can use their foreign liquidity subject computed as per BDL Basic Circular 154 requirements on the condition they reconstitute it by 31 December 2024 as amended by the Intermediate Circular 674 issued on 5 July 2023.

- *Basic Circular 159* issued on 17 August 2021 preventing banks from processing foreign currency funds received from customers whether in the form of cash or through offshore transfers at a value other than its face value, with the exception of transactions pertaining to the settlement of loans (which was subsequently removed by Intermediate Circular 671 issued on 20 June 2023). It also prevented banks from purchasing foreign currencies at parallel rate with the exception of the purchase foreign currencies duly recorded on the electronic platform and resulting from offshore incoming transfers with the purpose of (i) enhancing liquidity, (ii) engaging in medium or long term investments, (iii) settling international commitments. Finally, the circular prevented banks from purchasing bankers' checks and other bank accounts in foreign currencies, whether directly or indirectly.

- Intermediate Circular 600 (amending Basic Circular 73) issued on 3 November 2021 requires Banks to record existing and future provisions for expected credit losses in the same currency as the related assets and off-balance sheet exposures. Banks are also required to set in place necessary measures to manage their FX position resulting from provisions recorded in foreign currencies.

- Basic Circular 161 issued on 16 December 2022 whereby the Central Bank of Lebanon will be providing Banks with US Dollar up to the limits set for each Group, at the Sayrafa rate. In return, Banks will provide the total amount to their customers at the same Sayrafa rate against LBP at limits set by the bank.

- Intermediate Circular 659 issued on 20 January 2023 (amending Basic Circulars 32 and 44) states that banks should liquidate their short open FX positions, as at 31 December 2022, gradually, on a period of 5 years.

- Intermediate Circular 661 issued on 31 January 2023 (amending Basic Circulars 23, 152 and 159) states that the exchange rate of repayment was increased to LBP 15,000 to the US Dollar.

- Intermediate Circular 683 issued on 17 November 2023 defining the calculation of the Foreign Exchange Trading Position, also to deduct from the Foreign Exchange Open Position the Special Long Foreign Exchange Position.

- Basic *Circular 166* issued on February 2, 2024 defining a new mechanism for the repayment of restricted funds in FCY and de-facto replacing basic circular 151, which authorized limited withdrawals in LBP from FCY accounts at pre-defined exchange rates and has not been renewed. Beneficiaries from said circular – who cannot be old or current beneficiaries from basic circular 158

- would be able to withdraw on a monthly basis USD150 in cash up to a cumulative amount of USD 4,350 until June 2026. 50% of said amount will be financed from the Bank's own liquidity and 50% from the Bank's restricted funds with BDL. Certain exclusions parameters apply to potential customers wishing to benefit from the circular (Customers who did not return offshore transfers as per basic circular 154, traders of checks, customers who converted LBP deposits into FCY for at least USD 300,000 post-crisis with the exception of those who converted their EOS indemnity, customers who settled their FCY loans for an amount equivalent to USD 300,000 from LBP proceeds, beneficiaries of sayrafa transaction above or equal to USD75,000, corporate clients, etc.).

- Basic *Circular 167* issued on February 2, 2024 defining the published rate on BDL's electronic platform as the FX translation rate for the Bank's FCY monetary items as well for the non-monetary assets measured at fair value and assets measured as per equity method in line with IAS 21. This measure applies starting 31 January 2024 reported financials.

- BCC circular 300 issued on 27 November 2023 defining the monetary and non-monetary assets and liabilities in accordance with the requirements of IAS 21, the foreign exchange position calculation, related accounting treatment, foreign exchange position limits and the reporting to the Banking Control Commission of Lebanon.

1.3 The Group's Financial particulars

1.3.1 Foreign exchange

The Group's assets and liabilities in foreign currency, were converted in Lebanese Pound at the official exchange rate peg of USD1 = 15,000LBP as at December 31, 2023 and 1,507.5 as at December 31, 2022, as published by the Central Bank of Lebanon on a monthly basis. Since the last quarter of 2019, several exchange rates have emerged deviating significantly from each other and from the official peg as at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022 as discussed under Note 1.2.
The existence of multiple foreign exchange rates as well as the accessibility to such rates, necessitates the review of the appropriate exchange rates that entities should use in accounting for and reporting their foreign currency transactions. The judgment of which foreign exchange (FX) rate to use depends on the official FX rate at which the future cash flows represented by the transaction or balance could have been settled if those cash flows had occurred at the measurement date. This should take into account the specific facts and circumstances relating to each transaction or balance.

In the light of uncertainties, management did not determine the rates at which future cash flows represented by the transaction or balance could have been settled depending on its source and nature, if those cash flows had occurred at the measurement date. Accordingly, the Group's transactions and monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies, whether onshore or offshore, were converted in Lebanese pound at the official exchange rate peg of USD1 = LBP15,000 as at December 31, 2023 and USD1=1507.5 as at December 31, 2022.

As the official exchange rate significantly deviates from the exchange rates in the parallel markets, this does not represent a reasonable estimate of expected cash flows that would have to be generated/used from the realization of such assets or the payment of such liabilities at the date of the transaction or of the financial statements. The valuation of the Group's assets and liabilities in foreign currencies at a different rate is expected to significantly impact the Bank's financial statements once the regulatory authorities adopt a free-floating exchange rate policy.

In February 2023, the Central Bank of Lebanon changed the official published exchange rate from LBP 1,507.5 to LBP 15,000 to the US Dollar. Sayrafa Rates and parallel market rates remained highly volatile and divergent from the new official published exchange rate (LBP 42,000 and LBP 58,200 respectively at February 1, 2023).

In January 2024, the Central Bank of Lebanon changed the official published exchange rate from LBP 15,000 to LBP 89,500 to the US Dollar.

The consolidated financial statements as at and for the year ended December 31, 2023 do not include adjustments from the change in this rate from LBP 15,000 to LBP 89,500 to the US Dollar (the consolidated financial statements as at and for the year ended December 31, 2022 do not include adjustments from the change in this rate from LBP 1,507.5 to LBP 15,000 to the US Dollar). The Group will use the new rate of LBP 89,500 in its subsequent financial information reporting, with the first period being the quarterly reporting as of March 31, 2024.

1.3.2 Hyperinflation in Lebanon

As at December 31, 2023, and 2022, all conditions have been met for the Group's consolidated financial statements to incorporate the inflation adjustment provided under IAS 29 "Financial Reporting in Hyperinflationary Economies". IFRS requires that financial statements of any entity whose functional currency is the currency of a hyperinflationary economy be restated into the current purchasing power at the end of the reporting period. Paragraph 4 of IAS 29 states that it is preferable for all entities that report in the currency of a hyperinflationary economy to apply the standard at the same date. In order to achieve uniformity as to the identification of an economic environment of this kind, IAS 29 provides certain guidelines: a cumulative three-year inflation rate exceeding 100% is a strong indicator of hyperinflation, but also qualitative factors, such as analyzing the behavior of population, prices, interest rates and wages should also be considered.

The Lebanese Central Administration of Statistics reported 3-year and 12-month cumulative rates of inflation of 2,005% and 192%, respectively, as at December 2023 (2022: 1,670% and 122%). Qualitative indicators, following the deteriorating economic condition and currency controls, also support the conclusion that Lebanon is a hyperinflationary economy for accounting purposes for periods ending on or after December31, 2020.

Therefore, entities whose functional currency is the Lebanese Pound, should restate their financial statements to reflect the effects of inflation in conformity with IAS 29. Such restatement shall be made as if the Lebanese economy has always been hyperinflationary; using a general price index that reflects the changes in the currency's purchasing power.
The effects of the application of IAS 29 are summarized below:

(a) Financial statements must be adjusted to consider the changes in the currency's general purchasing power, so that they are expressed in the current unit of measure at the end of the reporting period.
(b) In summary, the restatement method under IAS 29 is as follows:
    i. Monetary items are not restated in as much as they are already expressed in terms of the measuring unit current at the closing date of the reporting period. In an inflationary period,

keeping monetary assets generates loss of purchasing power and keeping monetary liabilities generates an increase in purchasing power. The net monetary gain or loss shall be included as income for the period for which it is reported.

ii. Non-monetary items carried at the current value of the end date of the reporting period shall not be restated to be presented in the balance sheet, but the restatement process must be completed in order to determine into the current purchasing power at the end of the reporting period the income derived from such non-monetary items.

iii. Non-monetary items carried at historical cost or at the current value of a date prior to the end of the reporting period are restated using coefficients that reflect the variation recorded in the general level of prices from the date of acquisition or revaluation to the closing date of the reporting period, then comparing the restated amounts of such assets with the relevant recoverable values. Depreciation charges of property, plant and equipment and amortization charges of intangible assets recognized in profit or loss for the period, as well as any other consumption of non-monetary assets will be determined based on the new restated amounts.

iv. Income and expenses are restated from the date when they were recorded, except for those profit or loss items that reflect or include in their determination the consumption of assets carried at the purchasing power of the currency as of a date prior to the recording of the consumption, which are restated based on the date when the asset to which the item is related originated; and except those profit or loss items originated from comparing two measurements expressed in the purchasing power of currency as of different dates, for which it is necessary to identify the compared amounts, restate them separately, and compare them again, but with the restated amounts.

v. At the beginning of the first year of application of the restatement method of consolidated financial statements in terms of the current measuring unit, the prior-year comparatives are restated in terms of the measuring unit current at the end of the current reporting period. The equity components, except for reserved earnings and undistributed retained earnings, shall also be restated, and the amount of undistributed retained earnings shall be determined by the difference between net assets restated at the date of transition and the other components of opening equity expressed as indicated above, once all remaining equity components are restated.

As of the date of the accompanying consolidated financial statements, for the reasons described below, Management is temporarily unable to apply the above-mentioned standard nor is it able to quantify the effect that the application of IAS 29 would have on the presented consolidated financial statements due to the following considerations: the significant divergence in exchange rates, the lack of consensus on the general price index and the lack of views of relevant regulators, including tax authorities.
However, Management estimates such effects to be significant. This situation must be taken into account when interpreting the information reported by the Group in the accompanying consolidated financial statements including its consolidated statement of financial position, consolidated income statement, consolidated statement of comprehensive income and consolidated cash flow statement.

The application of IAS 29 is very complex and requires the Group to develop new accounting software and processes, internal controls and governance framework. Based on the Group's preliminary assessment, the absence of an official legal payment and settlement mechanism that would reflect in a reasonable manner, the expected cash flows for assets and liabilities in foreign currencies, and the absence of an accurate reflection of price changes impede the useful information that would have been otherwise produced from the application of IAS 29.

Accordingly, the Group has postponed the application of IAS 29 and incurring costs for developing accounting processes and a governance framework until the Group is comfortable that such application would provide the users with more relevant information.

1.3.3 Exposure to financial instruments

As at December 31, 2023, the Group's net credit exposure to Lebanese sovereign debt, including BDL, represented 56.18% of total consolidated assets (2022: 58.37%). LBP denominated net exposures and foreign currency denominated net exposures amounted to LBP2,864billion and LBP71,828billion respectively (2022: LBP2,492billion and LBP7,522billion respectively).

The material uncertainties discussed under Note 1.1 above and the lack of observable indicators, have impacted management ability to formulate adequate loss allowances on the Bank's exposures to BDL, Lebanese Government bonds, deposits with banks, and other financial instruments originated by Lebanese banks and other corporate entities. Therefore, the loss allowances recognized in these financial statements do not represent a reasonable estimate of the expected credit losses on these exposures and have not been assessed in accordance with IFRS 9. This applies as well to the credit risk Staging of these exposures as disclosed in these financial statements. The basis of the loss allowances recognized by the Group against BDL and sovereign exposures is described under Note 54.

The adverse economic conditions and the severe recession resulted in a significant deterioration of the credit quality of the customers' loans portfolio concentrated in Lebanon since the last quarter 2019 despite the drop in the customers' loans portfolio. The Group's credit assessment of the customers' loans portfolio is based on information available to management which did not take into account the circumstances prevailing as a result of the continuing and aggravating economic crisis and recession. Given the high level of uncertainties, Management is unable to estimate in a reasonable manner the impact of these matters on the Group's financial position.

Fair values of financial assets originated in Lebanon have been determined by the Group using notional prices quoted on inactive and illiquid markets or using yield curves that are not reflective of economic reality and market conditions. In the absence of reliable data, the Group did not disclose the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities measured at amortized cost as required by IFRS 13 *Fair Value Measurements*.

The downgrade of sovereign credit rating, the increase in credit, liquidity, market and operational risks across all business sectors, the de-facto capital controls and restrictions on transfers of foreign currency overseas exposing the banking sector to litigation, the current and future possible changes to fiscal, economic and political conditions as well as changes to the legal and regulatory landscape in the Republic of Lebanon stemming from the above events and the government's recovery plans have led to significant uncertainties and the full range of effects on the banking sector in general and on the Group's financial standing is unknown.

Management considers that the adverse impact of the above is expected to be pervasive and will have a significant negative impact on the equity of the Bank and the recapitalization needs that will arise once the necessary adjustments are determined and recorded.

The Group's Management's current strategy is to continue operations with limited scope of services and transactions, similarly to the banking sector as a whole.

As disclosed in Note 52 to these financial statements, the Bank's capital adequacy ratio as at December 31, 2023 and 2022, similarly to other applicable regulatory ratios, was calculated based on the disclosed figures, and did not take into consideration the adjustments that will result from the uncertainties reflected above once these uncertainties become reasonably quantifiable.

1.3.4 Litigations and claims

Until the above uncertainties are resolved, the Group is continuing its operations as performed since October 17, 2019 and in accordance with the laws and regulations. Unofficial capital controls and inability to transfer foreign currencies to correspondent banks outside Lebanon are exposing the Group to litigations that are dealt with on a case-by-case basis when they occur. The Group has been subject to increased litigations as a result of these restrictive measures adopted by Lebanese banks in relation to withdrawal of funds and transfers abroad, as well as in relation to the repayment by customers of local foreign currency loans in Lebanese pound. Management is carefully considering the impact of these existing litigations and claims. There are still uncertainties related to the consequences of these restrictive measures based on the current available information and the prevailing laws and local banking practices. However due to recent development and the increasing trend in judgments ruled in favor of the plaintiffs and customers, management considers that they may affect negatively the offshore liquidity of the Group, its foreign assets and its foreign currency mismatch as disclosed in Note 54. The amount cannot be determined presently.

2 . Application of new and revised IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) (IFRS Accounting Standards)

2.1 New and amended Standards and Interpretations that are effective for the current year

In the current year, the Bank has applied the below amendments to IFRS Standards and Interpretations that are effective for an annual period that begins on or after January 1, 2023. Their adoption has not had any material impact on the disclosures or on the amounts reported in these financial statements.

- ***Amendments to IAS 8 — 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". Entities develop accounting estimates if accounting policies require items in financial statements to be measured in a way that involves measurement uncertainty. The amendments clarify that a change in accounting estimate that results from new information or new developments is not the correction of an error.
- ***Amendments to IAS 12 — Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction***
  The amendments clarify that the initial recognition exemption does not apply to transactions in which equal amounts of deductible and taxable temporary differences arise on initial recognition.
  It specifically addresses the recognition of deferred tax related to assets and liabilities arising from a single transaction. It requires companies to recognize deferred tax on particular transactions that, upon initial recognition, give rise to equal amounts of taxable and deductible temporary differences.

- ***Amendments to Amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Practice Statement 2 — Disclosure of Accounting Policies***
  The amendments provide guidance and examples to help entities apply materiality judgments to accounting policy disclosures. The amendments aim at helping entities provide accounting policy disclosures that are more useful by replacing the requirement for entities to disclose their "significant accounting policies" with a requirement to disclose their "material" accounting policies and adding guidance on how entities apply the concept of materiality in making decisions about accounting policy disclosures.

- ***IFRS 17 — Insurance contract***
  IFRS 17 establishes the principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of insurance contracts and supersedes IFRS 4 Insurance Contracts.
  IFRS 17 outlines a general model, which is modified for insurance contracts with direct participation features, described as the variable fee approach. The general model is simplified if certain criteria are met by measuring the liability for remaining coverage using the premium allocation approach. The general model uses current assumptions to estimate the amount, timing and uncertainty of future cash flows and it explicitly measures the cost of that uncertainty. It takes into account market interest rates and the impact of policyholders' options and guarantees. The Bank does not have any contracts that meet the definition of an insurance contract under IFRS 17.

2.2 Standards issued but not yet effective
The following amendments to IFRS have been issued but are not yet effective and have not been early adopted by the Bank. The Bank intends to adopt them when they become effective.

- ***Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of financial statements — Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current***
  The amendments provide guidance regarding the classification of assets and liabilities as current or non-current. The amendments are applied retrospectively for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2024, with early application permitted.

- ***Amendments to IFRS 16 Leases — Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback***
  The amendments specifically address the treatment of lease liability in a sale and leaseback scenario and clarify how a seller-lessee subsequently measures sale and leaseback transactions that meet the requirements in IFRS 15 to be accounted for as a sale. The amendments are for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2024 with early application permitted.

- ***Amendment to IAS 7 and IFRS 7— Supplier finance arrangements***
  The amendments introduce two new disclosure objectives:
  One in IAS 7: To provide information enabling users (investors) to assess the effects of supplier finance arrangements on an entity's liabilities and cash flows.
  Another in IFRS 7: To help users understand the effect of supplier finance arrangements on an entity's exposure to liquidity risk and how the entity might be affected if these arrangements were no longer available.
  These amendments aim to enhance transparency and provide investors with better insights into how supplier finance arrangements affect an entity's financial position and risk exposure.
  The amendments are for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2024 with early application permitted.

- ***Amendments to IAS 21 — Lack of exchangeability***
  The amendments specify when a currency is exchangeable into another currency and when it is not, and how an entity determines a spot rate when a currency lacks exchangeability.
  Under the amendments, entities are required to provide additional disclosures to help users evaluate how a currency's lack of exchangeability affects, or is expected to affect, its financial performance, financial position and cash flows.
  These amendments are effective for reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2025 with early application permitted.

Management anticipates that these new Standards, Interpretations and amendments will be adopted in the Bank's financial statements for the period of initial application and adoption of these new Standards, Interpretations and amendments may have no material impact on the financial statements of the Bank in the period of initial application.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Statement of Compliance

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

Basis of Preparation and Measurement:

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for the following:

- Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value.
- Equity securities at fair value through other comprehensive income are measured at fair value.
- Derivative financial instruments measured at fair value.

Assets and liabilities are prepared according to their nature and are presented in an approximate order that reflects their relative liquidity.

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Lebanese Pound (LBP) which is the Bank's presentation and functional currency. All values are rounded to the nearest thousands, except when indicated otherwise.

The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below:

A. Basis of Consolidation:

The consolidated financial statements of Bank of Beirut S.A.L. incorporate the financial statements of the Bank and entities controlled by the Bank and its subsidiaries. Control is achieved when the Bank:

- has power over the investee;
- is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee; and
- has the ability to use its power to affect its returns.

The Bank reassesses whether or not it controls an investee if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the three elements of control listed above.

When the Bank has less than a majority of the voting rights of an investee, it has power over the investee when the voting rights are sufficient to give it the practical ability to direct the relevant activities of the investee unilaterally. The Bank considers all relevant facts and circumstances in assessing whether or not the Bank's voting rights in an investee are sufficient to give it power, including:

- the size of the Bank's holding of voting rights relative to the size and dispersion of holdings of the other vote holders;
- potential voting rights held by the Bank, other vote holders or other parties;
- rights arising from other contractual arrangements; and

- any additional facts and circumstances that indicate that the Bank has, or does not have, the current ability to direct the relevant activities at the time that decisions need to be made, including voting patterns at previous shareholders' meetings.

Consolidation of a subsidiary begins when the Bank obtains control over the subsidiary and ceases when the Bank loses control of the subsidiary. Income and expenses of a subsidiary acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income from the date the Bank gains control until the date the Bank ceases to control the subsidiary.

Non-controlling interests represent the portion of profit or loss and net assets of subsidiaries not owned directly or indirectly by the Bank. Profit or loss and each component of other comprehensive income (OCI) are attributed to the equity holders of the Bank and to the non-controlling interests, even if this results in the non-controlling interests having a deficit balance.

When necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring their accounting policies into line with the Group's accounting policies.

All intra-group assets and liabilities, equity, income, expenses and cash flows relating to transactions between members of the Group are eliminated in full on consolidation.

A change in the ownership interest of a subsidiary, without a loss of control, is accounted for as an equity transaction. If the Group loses control over a subsidiary, it:

- Derecognizes the assets (including goodwill) and liabilities of the subsidiary;
- Derecognizes the carrying amount of any non-controlling interests;
- Derecognizes the cumulative translation differences recorded in equity;
- Recognizes the fair value of the consideration received;
- Recognizes the fair value of any investment retained;
- Recognizes any surplus or deficit in profit or loss; and
- Reclassifies the parent's share of components previously recognized in OCI to profit or loss or retained earnings, as appropriate, as would be required if the Group had directly disposed of the related assets or liabilities.

The consolidated subsidiaries consist of the following:

	Country of Incorporation	Date of Acquisition or Incorporation	Percentage of Ownership 2023	Percentage of Ownership 2022	Business Activity
Beirut Broker Company S.A.R.L.	Lebanon	1999	100	100	Insurance brokerage
Bank of Beirut UK LTD	United Kingdom	2002	100	100	Banking
BOB Finance S.A.L.	Lebanon	2006	100	100	Money Transfer
Bank of Beirut Invest S.A.L.	Lebanon	2007	100	100	Investment Banking
Cofida Holding S.A.L.	Lebanon	2008	100	100	Holding
Beirut Life S.A.L.	Lebanon	2010	90	90	Insurance
Bank of Sydney Ltd	Australia	2011	100	100	Banking
Medawar 247	Lebanon	2015	100	100	Real estate
Medawar 1216	Lebanon	2015	100	100	Real estate

In July 2023, the Bank has reclassified the assets owned by Medawar 247 S.A.L. and Medawar 1216 S.A.L. from long-term assets to assets held for sale. This decision follows the directors' resolution in July 2023 to sell the land, consisting mainly in plots in Medawar, owned by these subsidiaries. These properties were originally acquired for the Bank's expansion. The sale is expected to be completed by the end of August 2024.

B. Business Combinations:

Acquisitions of businesses are accounted for using the acquisition method. The consideration transferred in a business combination is measured at fair value, which is calculated as the sum of the acquisition-date fair values of the assets transferred by the Group, liabilities incurred by the Group to the former owners of the acquiree and the equity interests issued by the Group in exchange for control of the acquiree. Acquisition-related costs other than those associated with the issue of debt or equity securities are generally recognized in profit or loss as incurred.

The consideration transferred does not include amounts related to the settlement of pre-existing relationships. Such amounts are generally recognized in profit or loss.

Goodwill is measured as the excess of the sum of the consideration transferred, the amount of any non-controlling interests in the acquiree, and the fair value of the acquirer's previously held equity interest in the acquiree (if any) over the net of the acquisition-date amounts of the identifiable assets acquired and the liabilities assumed. When the excess is negative, the Group re-assesses whether it has correctly identified all of the assets acquired and all of the liabilities assumed and reviews the procedures used to measure the amounts to be recognized at the acquisition date. If the reassessment still results in an excess of the fair value of net assets acquired over the aggregate consideration transferred, then the gain is recognized in profit or loss.

Non-controlling interests in the net assets (excluding goodwill) of consolidated subsidiaries and associates are identified separately from the Group's equity therein.

Non-controlling interests that are present ownership interests and entitle their holders to a proportionate share of the entity's net assets in the event of liquidation may be initially measured either at fair value or at the non-controlling interests' proportionate share of the recognized amounts of the acquiree's identifiable net assets. The choice of measurement basis is made on a transaction-by-transaction basis. Other types of non-controlling interests are measured at fair value or, when applicable, on the basis specified in another IFRS.

When the consideration transferred by the Group in a business combination includes assets or liabilities resulting from a contingent consideration arrangement, the contingent consideration is measured at its acquisition-date fair value and included as part of the consideration transferred in a business combination. Changes in the fair value of the contingent consideration that qualify as measurement period adjustments are adjusted retrospectively, with corresponding adjustments against goodwill. Measurement period adjustments are adjustments that arise from additional information obtained during the 'measurement period' (which cannot exceed one year from the acquisition date) about facts and circumstances that existed at the acquisition date.

The subsequent accounting for changes in the fair value of the contingent consideration that do not qualify as measurement period adjustments depends on how the contingent consideration is classified. Contingent consideration that is classified as equity is not remeasured at subsequent reporting dates and its subsequent settlement is accounted for within equity. Contingent consideration that is classified as an asset or a liability is remeasured at subsequent reporting dates in accordance with IFRS 9, or IAS 37

Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets, as appropriate, with the corresponding gain or loss being recognized in profit or loss.

When a business combination is achieved in stages, the Group's previously held equity interest in the acquiree is remeasured to its acquisition-date fair value and the resulting gain or loss, if any, is recognized in profit or loss. Amounts arising from interests in the acquiree prior to the acquisition date that have previously been recognized in other comprehensive income are reclassified to profit or loss where such treatment would be appropriate if that interest were disposed of.

If the initial accounting for a business combination is incomplete by the end of the reporting period in which the combination occurs, the Group reports provisional amounts for the items for which the accounting is incomplete. Those provisional amounts are adjusted during the measurement period (see above), or additional assets or liabilities are recognized, to reflect new information obtained about facts and circumstances that existed at the acquisition date that, if known, would have affected the amounts recognized at that date.

A change in the ownership interest of a subsidiary, without a loss of control, is accounted for as an equity transaction.

C. Goodwill:

Goodwill arising on an acquisition of a business is carried at cost. Refer to Note 3B for the measurement of goodwill at initial recognition. Subsequent to initial recognition, goodwill is measured at cost less accumulated impairment losses, if any.

For the purpose of impairment testing, goodwill is allocated to each of the Group's cash-generating units expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination. Cash-generating units to which goodwill has been allocated are tested for impairment annually, or more frequently when there is an indication that the unit may be impaired. If the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit is less than the carrying amount of the unit, the impairment loss is allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to the unit and then to the other assets of the unit pro-rata on the basis of the carrying amount of each asset in the unit. An impairment loss recognized for goodwill is not reversed in a subsequent period.

On disposal of a subsidiary or a jointly controlled entity, the attributable amount of goodwill is included in the determination of the profit or loss on disposal.

The Group's policy for goodwill arising on the acquisition of an associate is described under "Investments in associates and other instruments".

D. Foreign Currencies:

In preparing the financial statements of each individual group entity, transactions in currencies other than the entity's functional currency (foreign currencies) are recognized at the official rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of the transactions. At the end of each reporting period, monetary items denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the official rates prevailing at that date. Non-monetary items carried at fair value that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the official rates prevailing at the date when the fair value was determined. Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are not retranslated.

Exchange differences on monetary items are recognized in profit or loss in the period in which they arise except for exchange differences on transactions entered into in order to hedge certain foreign currency risks, and except for exchange differences on monetary items receivable from or payable to a foreign operation for which settlement is neither planned nor likely to occur in the foreseeable future, which are recognized in other comprehensive income, and presented in the translation reserve in equity. These are recognized in profit or loss on disposal of the net investment.

For the purposes of presenting consolidated financial statements, the assets and liabilities of the Group's foreign operations are translated into Lebanese Pound using the official exchange rates prevailing at the end of each reporting period. Income and expense items are translated at the average official exchange rates for the period, unless exchange rates fluctuate significantly during that period, in which case the exchange rates at the dates of the transactions are used. Exchange differences arising, if any, are recognized in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity (attributed to non-controlling interests as appropriate). Such exchange differences are recognized in profit or loss in the period in which the foreign operation is disposed of.

In addition, in relation to a partial disposal of a subsidiary that does not result in the Group losing control over the subsidiary, the proportionate share of accumulated exchange differences are re-attributed to non-controlling interests and are not recognized in profit or loss.

Goodwill and fair value adjustments on identifiable assets and liabilities acquired arising on the acquisition of a foreign operation are treated as assets and liabilities of the foreign operation and translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the end of each reporting period. Exchange differences arising are recognized in other comprehensive income.

Cash flows provided by and used in foreign currencies under various activities, as included in the statement of cash flows, are converted into Lebanese Pounds at year-end exchange rates, except for cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year which is converted at the prior year closing exchange rates and the effect of currency fluctuation, if any, is disclosed separately.

E. Financial Instruments:

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognized in the Group's statement of financial position when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Recognized financial assets and financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value. Transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of financial assets and financial liabilities (other than financial assets and financial liabilities at FVTPL) are added to or deducted from the fair value of the financial assets or financial liabilities, as appropriate, on initial recognition. Transaction costs directly attributable to the acquisition of financial assets or financial liabilities at FVTPL are recognized immediately in profit or loss.

If the transaction price differs from fair value at initial recognition, the Group will account for such difference as follows:

(a) If fair value is evidenced by a quoted price in an active market for an identical asset or liability or based on a valuation technique that uses only data from observable markets, then the difference is recognized in profit or loss on initial recognition (i.e. day 1 profit or loss).

(b) In all other cases, the fair value will be adjusted to bring it in line with the transaction price (i.e. day 1 profit or loss will be deferred by including it in the initial carrying amount of the asset or liability).

After initial recognition, the deferred gain or loss will be released to profit or loss on a rational basis, only to the extent that it arises from a change in a factor (including time) that market participants would take into account when pricing the asset or liability.

F. Financial Assets:

All financial assets are recognized and derecognized on a trade date where the purchase or sale of a financial asset is under contract whose terms require delivery of the financial asset within the timeframe established by the market concerned, and initially measured at fair value, plus transaction costs, except for those financial assets classified as at FVTPL. Transaction costs directly attributable to the acquisition of financial assets classified as at FVTPL are recognized immediately in profit or loss.

All recognized financial assets that are within the scope of IFRS 9 are required to be subsequently measured at amortized cost or fair value on the basis of the entity's business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets.

Specifically:

- Debt instruments that are held within a business model whose objective is to collect the contractual cash flows, and that have contractual cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding (SPPI), are subsequently measured at amortized cost;

- Debt instruments that are held within a business model whose objective is both to collect the contractual cash flows and to sell the debt instruments, and that have contractual cash flows that are SPPI, are subsequently measured at FVTOCI;

- All other debt instruments (e.g. debt instruments managed on a fair value basis, or held for sale) and equity investments are subsequently measured at FVTPL.

However, the Group may make the following irrevocable election / designation at initial recognition of a financial asset on an asset-by-asset basis:

- The Group may irrevocably elect to present subsequent changes in fair value of an equity investment that is neither held for trading nor contingent consideration recognized by an acquirer in a business combination to which IFRS 3 applies, in OCI; and

- The Group may irrevocably designate a debt instrument that meets the amortized cost or FVTOCI criteria as measured at FVTPL if doing so eliminates or significantly reduces an accounting mismatch (referred to as the fair value option).

Debt instruments at amortized cost or at FVTOCI

For an asset to be classified and measured at amortized cost or at FVTOCI, its contractual terms should give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal outstanding (SPPI).

An assessment of business models for managing financial assets is fundamental to the classification of a financial asset. The Group determines the business models at a level that reflects how groups of financial assets are managed together to achieve a particular business objective. The Group's business model does not depend on management's intentions for an individual instrument, therefore the business model assessment is performed at a higher level of aggregation rather than on an instrument-by-instrument basis.

When a debt instrument measured at FVTOCI is derecognized, the cumulative gain/loss previously recognized in OCI is reclassified from equity to profit or loss. In contrast, for an equity investment designated as measured at FVTOCI, the cumulative gain/loss previously recognized in OCI is not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss but transferred within equity.

The Group reassess its business models each reporting period to determine whether the business models have changed since the preceding period.

Debt instruments that are subsequently measured at amortized cost or at FVTOCI are subject to impairment.

In the current and prior reporting period the Group has applied the fair value option and so has designated debt instruments that meet the amortized cost or FVTOCI criteria as measured at FVTPL.

Financial assets at FVTPL

Financial assets at FVTPL are:

- assets with contractual cash flows that are not SPPI; or/and
- assets that are held in a business model other than held to collect contractual cash flows or held to collect and sell; or
- assets designated at FVTPL using the fair value option.

These assets are measured at fair value, with any gains/losses arising on remeasurement recognized in profit or loss. Fair value is determined in the manner described below.

Reclassifications

If the business model under which the Group holds financial assets changes, the financial assets affected are reclassified. The classification and measurement requirements related to the new category apply prospectively from the first day of the first reporting period following the change in business model that results in reclassifying the Group's financial assets.

Impairment

The Group recognizes loss allowances for ECLs on the following financial instruments that are not measured at FVTPL:

- deposits at banks;
- loans and advances to banks;
- loans and advances to customers;
- customers' liability under acceptances
- debt investment securities;
- loan commitments issued; and
- financial guarantee contracts issued.

No impairment loss is recognized on equity investments.

With the exception of Purchased or Originated Credit Impaired (POCI) financial assets (which are considered separately below), ECLs are required to be measured through a loss allowance at an amount equal to:

- 12-month ECL, i.e. lifetime ECL that result from those default events on the financial instrument that are possible within 12 months after the reporting date, (referred to as Stage 1); or
- full lifetime ECL, i.e. lifetime ECL that result from all possible default events over the life of the financial instrument, (referred to as Stage 2 and Stage 3).

A loss allowance for full lifetime ECL is required for a financial instrument if the credit risk on that financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition. For all other financial instruments, ECLs are measured at an amount equal to the 12-month ECL.

ECLs are a probability-weighted estimate of the present value of credit losses. These are measured as the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the Group under the contract and the cash flows that the Group expects to receive arising from the weighting of multiple future economic scenarios, discounted at the asset's EIR.

- for undrawn loan commitments, the ECL is the difference between the present value of the difference between the contractual cash flows that are due to the Group if the holder of the commitment draws down the loan and the cash flows that the Group expects to receive if the loan is drawn down; and

- for financial guarantee contracts, the ECL is the difference between the expected payments to reimburse the holder of the guaranteed debt instrument less any amounts that the Group expects to receive from the holder, the debtor or any other party.

The Group measures ECL on an individual basis, or on a collective basis for portfolios of loans that share similar economic risk characteristics. The measurement of the loss allowance is based on the present value of the asset's expected cash flows using the asset's original EIR, regardless of whether it is measured on an individual basis or a collective basis.

Credit-impaired 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. Credit-impaired financial assets are referred to as Stage 3 assets. Evidence of credit-impairment includes observable data about the following events:

- significant financial difficulty of the borrower or issuer;
- a breach of contract such as a default or past due event;
- the lender of the borrower, for economic or contractual reasons relating to the borrower's financial difficulty, having granted to the borrower a concession that the lender would not otherwise consider;
- the disappearance of an active market for a security because of financial difficulties; or
- the purchase of a financial asset at a deep discount that reflects the incurred credit losses.

It may not be possible to identify a single discrete event—instead, the combined effect of several events may have caused financial assets to become credit-impaired. The Group assesses whether debt instruments that are financial assets measured at amortized cost or FVTOCI are credit-impaired at each reporting date. To assess if sovereign and corporate debt instruments are credit impaired, the Group considers factors such as bond yields, credit ratings and the ability of the borrower to raise funding.

Purchased or originated credit-impaired (POCI) financial assets

POCI financial assets are treated differently because the asset is credit-impaired at initial recognition. For these assets, the Group recognizes all changes in lifetime ECL since initial recognition as a loss allowance with any changes recognized in profit or loss. A favorable change for such assets creates an impairment gain.

Definition of default

Critical to the determination of ECL is the definition of default. The definition of default is used in measuring the amount of ECL and in the determination of whether the loss allowance is based on 12-month or lifetime ECL, as default is a component of the probability of default (PD) which affects both the measurement of ECLs and the identification of a significant increase in credit risk.

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

- The borrower is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Group in full, without recourse by the Group to actions such as realizing security (if any is held);
- The borrower is more than 90 days past due on any material credit obligation to the Group.
- 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.

The definition of default is appropriately tailored to reflect different characteristics of different types of assets. Overdrafts are considered as being past due once the customer has breached an advised limit or has been advised of a limit smaller than the current amount outstanding.

When assessing if the borrower is unlikely to pay its credit obligation, the Group takes into account both qualitative and quantitative indicators. The information assessed depends on the type of the asset, for example in corporate lending a qualitative indicator used is the breach of covenants, which is not relevant for retail lending. Quantitative indicators, such as overdue status and non-payment on another obligation of the same counterparty are key inputs in this analysis. The Group uses a variety of sources of information to assess default which are either developed internally or obtained from external sources.

Significant increase in credit risk

The Group monitors all financial assets, issued loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts that are subject to the impairment requirements to assess whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition. If there has been a significant increase in credit risk the Group will measure the loss allowance based on lifetime rather than 12-month ECL.

In assessing whether the credit risk on a financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Group compares the risk of a default occurring on the financial instrument at the reporting date based on the remaining maturity of the instrument with the risk of a default occurring that was anticipated for the remaining maturity at the current reporting date when the financial instrument was first recognized. In making this assessment, the Group considers both quantitative and qualitative information that is reasonable and supportable, including historical experience and forward-looking information that is available without undue cost or effort, based on the Group's historical experience and expert credit assessment including forward-looking information.

Modification and derecognition of financial assets

A modification of a financial asset occurs when the contractual terms governing the cash flows of a financial asset are renegotiated or otherwise modified between initial recognition and maturity of the financial asset. A modification affects the amount and/or timing of the contractual cash flows either immediately or at a future date. In addition, the introduction or adjustment of existing covenants of an existing loan would constitute a modification even if these new or adjusted covenants do not yet affect the cash flows immediately but may affect the cash flows depending on whether the covenant is or is not met (e.g. a change to the increase in the interest rate that arises when covenants are breached).

When a financial asset is modified the Group assesses whether this modification results in derecognition. In accordance with the Group's policy a modification results in derecognition when it gives rise to substantially different terms.

The Group derecognizes a financial asset only when the contractual rights to the asset's cash flows expire (including expiry arising from a modification with substantially different terms), or when the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset are transferred to another entity. If the Group neither transfers nor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership and continues to control the transferred asset, the Group recognizes its retained interest in the asset and an associated liability for amounts it may have to pay. If the Group retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of a transferred financial asset, the Group continues to recognize the financial asset and also recognizes a collateralized borrowing for the proceeds received.

On derecognition of a financial asset in its entirety, the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the sum of the consideration received and receivable and the cumulative gain/loss that had been recognized in OCI and accumulated in equity is recognized in profit or loss, with the exception of equity investment designated as measured at FVTOCI, where the cumulative gain/loss previously recognized in OCI is not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss.

On derecognition of a financial asset other than in its entirety (e.g. when the Group retains an option to repurchase part of a transferred asset), the Group allocates the previous carrying amount of the financial asset between the part it continues to recognize under continuing involvement, and the part it no longer recognizes on the basis of the relative fair values of those parts on the date of the transfer. The difference between the carrying amount allocated to the part that is no longer recognized and the sum of the consideration received for the part no longer recognized and any cumulative gain/loss allocated to it that had been recognized in OCI is recognized in profit or loss. A cumulative gain/loss that had been recognized in OCI is allocated between the part that continues to be recognized and the part that is no longer recognized on the basis of the relative fair values of those parts. This does not apply for equity investments designated as measured at FVTOCI, as the cumulative gain/loss previously recognized in OCI is not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss.

Exchange of securities

Debt securities exchanged against securities with longer maturities with similar risks, and issued by the same issuer, are not derecognized because they do not meet the conditions for derecognition. Premiums and discounts derived from the exchange of said securities are deferred to be amortized as a yield enhancement on a time proportionate basis, over the period of the extended maturities.

Repurchase and Reverse Repurchase Agreements:

Securities sold under agreements to repurchase at a specified future date ("repos") are not derecognized from the statement of financial position. The corresponding cash received, including accrued interest, is recognized on the statement of financial position reflecting its economic substances as a loan to the Group. The difference between the sale and repurchase prices is treated as interest expense and is accrued over the life of the agreement using the effective interest rate method.

Conversely, securities purchased under agreements to resell at a specified date are not recognized in the statement of financial position. The consideration paid, including accrued interest is recorded in the statement of financial position reflecting the transaction's economic substance as a loan by the Group. The difference between the purchase and resale prices is treated as interest income in the statement of profit or loss and is accrued over the life of the agreement using the effective interest rate method.

Write-off

Loans and debt securities are written off when the Group has no reasonable expectations of recovering the financial asset (either in its entirety or a portion of it). This is the case when the Group determines that the borrower does not have assets or sources of income that could generate sufficient cash flows to repay the amounts subject to the write-off. A write-off constitutes a derecognition event. The Group may apply enforcement activities to financial assets written off. Recoveries resulting from the Group's enforcement activities will result in impairment gains.

Presentation of allowance for ECL in the statement of financial position

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

- for financial assets measured at amortized cost: as a deduction from the gross carrying amount of the assets;
- for debt instruments measured at FVTOCI: no loss allowance is recognized in the statement of financial position as the carrying amount is at fair value. However, the loss allowance is included as part of the revaluation amount in the investments revaluation reserve;
- for loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts: as a provision; and
- where a financial instrument includes both a drawn and an undrawn component, and the Group cannot identify the ECL on the loan commitment component separately from those on the drawn component: the Group 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.

G. Financial Liabilities and Equity Instruments:

Debt and equity instruments that are issued are classified as either financial liabilities or as equity in accordance with the substance of the contractual arrangement.

A financial liability is a contractual obligation to deliver cash or another financial asset or to exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another entity under conditions that are potentially unfavorable to the Group or a contract that will or may be settled in the Group's own equity instruments and is a non-derivative contract for which the Group is or may be obliged to deliver a variable number of its own equity instruments, or a derivative contract over own equity that will or may be settled other than by the exchange of a fixed amount of cash (or another financial asset) for a fixed number of the Group's own equity instruments.

Equity instruments

An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of an entity after deducting all of its liabilities. Equity instruments issued by the Group are recognized at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs.

Repurchase of the Group's own equity instruments is recognized and deducted directly in equity. No gain/loss is recognized in profit or loss on the purchase, sale, issue or cancellation of the Group's own equity instruments.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified as either financial liabilities 'at FVTPL' or 'other financial liabilities'.

Financial liabilities at FVTPL

Financial liabilities are classified as at FVTPL when the financial liability is (i) held for trading, or (ii) it is designated as at FVTPL.

A financial liability is classified as held for trading if:

- it has been incurred principally for the purpose of repurchasing it in the near term; or
- on initial recognition it is part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that the Group manages together and has a recent actual pattern of short-term profit-taking; or
- it is a derivative that is not designated and effective as a hedging instrument.

A financial liability other than a financial liability held for trading or contingent consideration that may be paid by an acquirer as part of a business combination may be designated as at FVTPL upon initial recognition if:

- such designation eliminates or significantly reduces a measurement or recognition inconsistency that would otherwise arise; or

- the financial liability forms part of a group of financial assets or financial liabilities or both, which is managed and its performance is evaluated on a fair value basis, in accordance with the Group's documented risk management or investment strategy, and information about the grouping is provided internally on that basis; or

- it forms part of a contract containing one or more embedded derivatives, and IFRS 9 permits the entire hybrid (combined) contract to be designated as at FVTPL.

Financial liabilities at FVTPL are stated at fair value, with any gains/losses arising on remeasurement recognized in profit or loss to the extent that they are not part of a designated hedging relationship. The net gain/loss recognized in profit or loss incorporates any interest paid on the financial liability and is included in the 'net income from other financial instruments at FVTPL' line item in the profit or loss account.

However, for non-derivative financial liabilities that are designated as at FVTPL, the amount of change in the fair value of the financial liability that is attributable to changes in the credit risk of that liability is recognized in OCI, unless the recognition of the effects of changes in the liability's credit risk in OCI would create or enlarge an accounting mismatch in profit or loss. The remaining amount of change in the fair value of liability is recognized in profit or loss. Changes in fair value attributable to a financial liability's credit risk that are recognized in OCI are not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss; instead, they are transferred to retained earnings upon derecognition of the financial liability.

For issued loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts that are designated as at FVTPL all gains and losses are recognized in profit or loss.

In making the determination of whether recognizing changes in the liability's credit risk in OCI will create or enlarge an accounting mismatch in profit or loss, the Group assesses whether it expects that the effects of changes in the liability's credit risk will be offset in profit or loss by a change in the fair value of another financial instrument measured at FVTPL. This determination is made at initial recognition.

Fair value is determined as described under Note 54 below.

Other financial liabilities

Other financial liabilities, including deposits and borrowings, are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs. Other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortized cost of a financial liability and of allocating interest expense over the relevant period. The EIR is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments through the expected life of the financial liability, or, where appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount on initial recognition. For details on EIR see the "net interest income section" above.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

The Group derecognizes financial liabilities when, and only when, the Group's obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognized and the consideration paid and payable is recognized in profit or loss.

When the Group exchanges with the existing lender one debt instrument into another one with substantially different terms, such exchange is accounted for as an extinguishment of the original financial liability and the recognition of a new financial liability. Similarly, the Group accounts for substantial modification of terms of an existing liability or part of it as an extinguishment of the original financial liability and the recognition of a new liability. It is assumed that the terms are substantially different if the discounted present value of the cash flows under the new terms, including any fees paid net of any fees received and discounted using the original effective rate is at least 10 per cent different from the discounted present value of the remaining cash flows of the original financial liability.

H. Offsetting

Financial assets and liabilities are set-off and the net amount is presented in the consolidated statement of financial position when, and only when, the Group has a legal right to set-off the amounts or intends either to settle on a net basis or to realize the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

- **Derivative financial instruments**

Derivatives, such as foreign exchange forward contracts, interest rate swaps, cross currency interest rate swaps and credit default swaps, are initially recognized at fair value at the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value at each statement of financial position date. The resulting gain/loss is recognized in profit or loss immediately unless the derivative is designated and effective as a hedging instrument, in which event the timing of the recognition in profit or loss depends on the nature of the hedge relationship. The Group designates certain derivatives as either hedges of the fair value of recognized assets or liabilities or firm commitments (fair value hedges), hedges of highly probable forecast transactions or hedges of foreign currency risk of firm commitments (cash flow hedges), or hedges of net investments in foreign operations (net investment hedges).

A derivative with a positive fair value is recognized as a financial asset whereas a derivative with a negative fair value is recognized as a financial liability.

Embedded derivatives

Derivatives embedded in financial liabilities or other non-financial asset host contracts are treated as separate derivatives when their risks and characteristics are not closely related to those of the host contracts and the host contracts are not measured at FVTPL.

I. Financial guarantee contracts

A financial guarantee contract is a contract that requires the issuer 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.

Financial guarantee contracts issued by a group entity are initially measured at their fair values and, if not designated as at FVTPL and not arising from a transfer of a financial asset, are subsequently measured at the higher of:

- the amount of the loss allowance determined in accordance with IFRS 9; and
- the amount initially recognized less, where appropriate, cumulative amount of income recognized in accordance with the Group's revenue recognition policies.

Financial guarantee contracts not designated at FVTPL are presented as provisions on the consolidated statement of financial position and the remeasurement is presented in other revenue.

The Group has not designated any financial guarantee contracts as at FVTPL.

J. Hedge accounting

The Group designates certain derivatives as hedging instruments in respect of foreign currency risk and interest rate risk in fair value hedges, cash flow hedges, or hedges of net investments in foreign operations as appropriate. Hedges of foreign exchange risk on firm commitments are accounted for as cash flow hedges. The Group does not apply fair value hedge accounting of portfolio hedges of interest rate risk. In addition the Group does not use the exemption to continue using IAS 39 hedge accounting rules, i.e. the Group applies IFRS 9 hedge accounting rules in full.

At the inception of the hedge relationship, the Group documents the relationship between the hedging instrument and the hedged item, along with its risk management objectives and its strategy for undertaking various hedge transactions.

Furthermore, at the inception of the hedge and on an ongoing basis, the Group documents whether the hedging instrument is effective in offsetting changes in fair values or cash flows of the hedged item attributable to the hedged risk, which is when the hedging relationships meet all of the following hedge effectiveness requirements:

- there is an economic relationship between the hedged item and the hedging instrument;
- the effect of credit risk does not dominate the value changes that result from that economic relationship; and
- the hedge ratio of the hedging relationship is the same as that resulting from the quantity of the hedged item that the Group actually hedges and the quantity of the hedging instrument that the Group actually uses to hedge that quantity of hedged item.

The Group rebalances a hedging relationship in order to comply with the hedge ratio requirements when necessary. In such cases discontinuation may apply to only part of the hedging relationship. For example, the hedge ratio might be adjusted in such a way that some of the volume of the hedged item is no longer part of a hedging relationship, hence hedge accounting is discontinued only for the volume of the hedged item that is no longer part of the hedging relationship.

If a hedging relationship ceases to meet the hedge effectiveness requirement relating to the hedge ratio but the risk management objective for that designated hedging relationship remains the same, the Group adjusts the hedge ratio of the hedging relationship (i.e. rebalances the hedge) so that it meets the qualifying criteria again.

In some hedge relationships the Group designates only the intrinsic value of options. In this case the fair value change of the time value component of the option contract is deferred in OCI, over the term of the hedge, to the extent that it relates to the hedged item and is reclassified from equity to profit or loss when the hedged item does not result in the recognition of a non-financial item. The Group's risk management policy does not include hedges of items that result in the recognition of non-financial items, because the Group's risk exposures relate to financial items only.

The hedged items designated by the Group are time-period related hedged items, which means that the amount of the original time value of the option that relates to the hedged item is amortized from equity to profit or loss on a rational basis (e.g. straight-line) over the term of the hedging relationship.

In some hedge relationships the Group excludes from the designation the forward element of forward contracts or the currency basis spread of cross currency hedging instruments. In this case a similar treatment is applied to the one applied for the time value of options. The treatment for the forward element of a forward and the currency basis element is optional and the option is applied on a hedge by hedge basis, unlike the treatment for the time value of the options which is mandatory. For hedge relationships with forwards or foreign currency derivatives such as cross currency interest rate swaps, where the forward element or the currency basis spread is excluded from the designation the Group generally recognizes the excluded element in OCI.

Fair value hedges

The fair value change on qualifying hedging instruments is recognized in profit or loss except when the hedging instrument hedges an equity instrument designated at FVTOCI in which case it is recognized in OCI.

The carrying amount of a hedged item not already measured at fair value is adjusted for the fair value change attributable to the hedged risk with a corresponding entry in profit or loss. For debt instruments measured at FVTOCI, the carrying amount is not adjusted as it is already at fair value, but the part of the fair value gain or loss on the hedged item associated with the hedged risk is recognized in profit or loss instead of OCI. When the hedged item is an equity instrument designated at FVTOCI, the hedging gain/loss remains in OCI to match that of the hedging instrument.

Where hedging gains/losses are recognized in profit or loss, they are recognized in the same line as the hedged item.

The Group discontinues hedge accounting only when the hedging relationship (or a part thereof) ceases to meet the qualifying criteria (after rebalancing, if applicable). This includes instances when the hedging instrument expires or is sold, terminated or exercised. The discontinuation is accounted for prospectively. The fair value adjustment to the carrying amount of hedged items for which the EIR method is used (i.e. debt instruments measured at amortized cost or at FVTOCI) arising from the hedged risk is amortized to profit or loss commencing no later than the date when hedge accounting is discontinued.

Cash flow hedges

The effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives and other qualifying hedging instruments that are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges is recognized in the cash flow hedging reserve, a separate component of OCI, limited to the cumulative change in fair value of the hedged item from inception of the hedge less any amounts recycled to profit or loss.

Amounts previously recognized in OCI and accumulated in equity are reclassified to profit or loss in the periods when the hedged item affects profit or loss, in the same line as the recognized hedged item. If the Group no longer expects the transaction to occur that amount is immediately reclassified to profit or loss.

The Group discontinues hedge accounting only when the hedging relationship (or a part thereof) ceases to meet the qualifying criteria (after rebalancing, if applicable). This includes instances when the hedging instrument expires or is sold, terminated or exercised, or where the occurrence of the designated hedged forecast transaction is no longer considered to be highly probable. The discontinuation is accounted for prospectively. Any gain/loss recognized in OCI and accumulated in equity at that time remains in equity and is recognized when the forecast transaction is ultimately recognized in profit or loss. When a forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, the gain/loss accumulated in equity is reclassified and recognized immediately in profit or loss.

Hedges of net investments in foreign operations

Hedges of net investments in foreign operations are accounted for similarly to cash flow hedges. Any gain/loss on the hedging instrument relating to the effective portion of the hedge is recognized in OCI and accumulated in the foreign currency translation reserve.

Gains and losses on the hedging instrument relating to the effective portion of the hedge accumulated in the foreign currency translation reserve are reclassified to profit or loss in the same way as exchange differences relating to the foreign operation.

K. Investments in Associates

An associate is an entity over which the Group has significant influence. Significant influence is the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee, but is not control or joint control over those policies.

The considerations made in determining significant influence are similar to those necessary to determine control over subsidiaries.

The results and assets and liabilities of associates, except where the Group has control over the associates' financial and operating policies, are incorporated in the consolidated financial statements using the equity method of accounting, except when the investment is classified as held for sale, in which case it is accounted for under IFRS 5 Non-current Assets Held-for-Sale and Discontinued Operations. Under the equity method, an investment in an associate is initially recognized in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost and adjusted thereafter to recognize the Group's share of the profit or loss and other comprehensive income of the associate. When the Group's share of losses of an associate exceeds the Group's interest in that associate, the Group discontinues recognizing its share of further losses. Additional losses are recognized only to the extent that the Group has incurred legal or constructive obligations or made payments on behalf of the associate.

Any excess of the cost of acquisition over the Group's share of the net fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities of an associate recognized at the date of acquisition is recognized as goodwill. The goodwill is included within the carrying amount of the investment. Any excess of the Group's share of the net fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities over the cost of acquisition, after reassessment, is recognized immediately in profit or loss.

The entire carrying amount of the investment (including goodwill) is tested for impairment in accordance with IAS 36 Impairment of Assets as a single asset by comparing its recoverable amount (higher of value in use and fair value less costs to sell) with its carrying amount. Any impairment loss recognized forms part of the carrying amount of the investment. Any reversal of that impairment loss is recognized in accordance with IAS 36 to the extent that the recoverable amount of the investment subsequently increases.

The Group discontinues the use of the equity method from the date when the investment ceases to be an associate or when the investment is classified as held for sale. When the Group retains an interest in the former associate or joint venture and the retained interest is a financial asset, the Group measures the retained interest at fair value at that date and the fair value is regarded as its fair value on initial recognition. The difference between the carrying amount of the associate at the date the equity method was discontinued, and the fair value of any retained interest and any proceeds from disposing of a part interest in the associate is included in the determination of the gain or loss on disposal of the associate. In addition, the Group accounts for all amounts previously recognized in other comprehensive income in relation to that associate on the same basis as would be required if that associate had directly disposed of the related assets or liabilities. Therefore, if a gain or loss previously recognized in other comprehensive income by that associate would be reclassified to profit or loss on the disposal of the related assets or liabilities, the Group reclassifies the gain or loss from equity to profit or loss (as a reclassification adjustment) when the equity method is discontinued.

When the Group reduces its ownership interest in an associate but the Group continues to use the equity method, the Group reclassifies to profit or loss the proportion of the gain or loss that had previously been recognized in other comprehensive income relating to that reduction in ownership interest if that gain or loss would be reclassified to profit or loss on the disposal of the related assets or liabilities.

When a Group entity transacts with an associate of the Group, profits and losses resulting from the transactions with the associate are recognized in the Group's consolidated financial statements only to the extent of interests in the associate that are not related to the Group.

The financial statements of the associates are prepared for the same reporting period of the Group.

L. Property and Equipment

Property and equipment except for buildings acquired prior to 1993 are stated at historical cost, less accumulated depreciation and any impairment loss. Buildings acquired prior to 1993 are stated at their revalued amounts based on valuations performed by external valuers less accumulated depreciation and impairment loss, if any. Resulting revaluation surplus is reflected under "Equity".

Depreciation of property and equipment, other than land and advance payments on capital expenditures, is calculated systematically using the straight line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets using the following annual rates:

	Rate	Years
Buildings	2%	50
Furniture and equipment	8%	12.5
Computer equipment	20%	5
Vehicles	10%	10
Installations and improvement	25%	4

The estimated useful lives and depreciation method are reviewed at each year end, with the effect of any changes in estimate accounted for on a prospective basis.

An item of property and equipment is derecognized upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is recognized under "Other operating income" in the consolidated statement of profit or loss in the year the asset is derecognized.

M. Intangible Assets Other than Goodwill

Intangible assets other than goodwill, are amortized on a straight-line basis at the rate of 20%. Intangible assets are subject to impairment testing. Subsequent expenditure on intangible assets is capitalized only when it increases the future economic benefits embodied in the specific asset to which it relates all other expenditure is expressed when incurred.

N. Assets acquired in satisfaction of loans

The Lebanese banking entities of the Group account for collateral foreclosed in accordance with the Central Bank of Lebanon main circular 78 and the Banking Control Commission circulars 173 and 267. foreclosed assets should be sold within two years from the date of approval of foreclosure by the Banking Control Commission. In case of default of liquidation, the regulatory authorities require an appropriation of a special reserve from the yearly profits reflected in equity.

Upon sale of foreclosed assets, any gain or loss realized is recognized in the consolidated statement of profit or loss under "Other operating income" or "Other operating expenses". Gains resulting from the sale of foreclosed assets are transferred to "Reserves for assets acquired in satisfaction of loans" starting in the following financial year.

For assets which were not disposed of within the specified period of two years, an amount computed as percentage of their gross carrying value is transferred to "Reserves for assets acquired in satisfaction of loans" in the following financial year.

O. Impairment of Tangible and Intangible Assets (Other than Goodwill)

At the end of each reporting period, the Group reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss, if any.

Recoverable amount is defined as the higher of:

- Fair value that reflects market conditions at the statement of financial position date, less cost to sell, if any. To determine fair value the Group adopts the market comparability approach using as indicators the current prices for similar assets in the same location and condition.
- Value in use: the present value of estimated future cash flows expected to arise from the continuing use of the asset and from its disposal at the end of its useful life, only applicable to assets with cash generation units.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognized immediately in profit or loss, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognized for the asset (cash-generating unit) in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognized immediately in profit or loss, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.

The recoverable amount of the Group's owned properties and of properties acquired in satisfaction of loans, is the estimated market value as determined by real estate appraisers on the basis of market compatibility by comparing with similar transactions in the same geographical area and on the basis of the expected value of a current sale between a willing buyer and a willing seller, that is, other than in a forced or liquidation sale after adjustment for an illiquidity factor and market constraints.

The impairment loss is charged to the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

P. Provision for Employees' End-of-Service Indemnity / Staff Retirement Benefits

Employees' End-of-service Indemnities: (Under the Lebanese Jurisdiction)

The provision for employees' termination indemnities is based on the liability that would arise if the employment of all the employees' were voluntary terminated at the reporting date. This provision is calculated in accordance with the directives of the Lebanese Social Security Fund and Labor laws based on the number of years of service multiplied by the monthly average of the last 12 months' remunerations and less contributions paid to the Lebanese Social Security National Fund.

Defined Benefit Plans: (Under other jurisdictions)

Obligations in respect of defined benefit pension plans is calculated separately for each plan by estimating the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods; that benefit is discounted to determine its present value, and any unrecognized past service costs and the fair value of any plan assets are deducted.

Q. Provisions

Provisions are recognized when the Group has a present obligation as a result of a past event, and it is probable that the Group will be required to settle that obligation. Provision is measured at the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the obligation at the statement of financial position date.

Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liability.

When some or all of the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, the receivable is recognized as an asset if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

R. Interest Income and Expense

Interest income and expense for all financial instruments except for those classified as held for trading or those measured or designated as at FVTPL are recognized in 'Net interest income' as 'Interest income' and 'Interest expense' in the profit or loss account using the effective interest method. Interest on financial instruments measured as at FVTPL is included within the fair value movement during the period, see 'Net (loss)/income from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss'.

The effective interest rate (EIR) is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash flows of the financial instrument through the expected life of the financial instrument or, where appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. The future cash flows are estimated taking into account all the contractual terms of the instrument.

The calculation of the EIR includes all fees paid or received between parties to the contract that are incremental and directly attributable to the specific lending arrangement, transaction costs, and all other premiums or discounts. For financial assets at FVTPL transaction costs are recognized in profit or loss at initial recognition.

The interest income/ interest expense is calculated by applying the EIR to the gross carrying amount of non-credit impaired financial assets (i.e. at the amortized cost of the financial asset before adjusting for any expected credit loss allowance), or to the amortized cost of financial liabilities. For credit-impaired financial assets the interest income is calculated by applying the EIR to the amortized cost of the credit-impaired financial assets (i.e. the gross carrying amount less the allowance for expected credit losses (ECLs)). For financial assets purchased or originated credit-impaired (POCI) the EIR reflects the ECLs in determining the future cash flows expected to be received from the financial asset.

S. Net fee and commission income

Fee and commission income and expense that are integral to the effective interest rate on a financial asset or liability (e.g. commissions and fees earned on loans) are included under interest income and expense.

Other fee and commission income are recognized as the related services are performed.

T. Net income/(loss) from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Net income from financial instruments financial instruments at FVTPL includes all gains and losses from changes in the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities at FVTPL and related interest income, expense and dividends.

U. Dividend income

Dividend income is recognized when the right to receive payment is established. Dividends on equity instruments designated as at fair value through other comprehensive income are recognized in profit or loss, unless the dividend clearly represents a recovery of part of the investment, in which case it is presented in other comprehensive income.

V. Income Tax

Income tax expense represents the sum of the tax currently payable and deferred tax. Income tax is recognized in the statement of profit or loss except to the extent that it relates to items recognized in other comprehensive income (OCI), in which case it is recognized in OCI.

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from profit as reported in the consolidated statement of profit or loss because of the items that are never taxable or deductible. The Group's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period.

Deferred tax is recognized on differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax base used in the computation of taxable profit, and are accounted for using the balance sheet liability method. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognized for all taxable temporary differences and deferred tax assets are recognized to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences can be utilized.

Deferred tax is provided using the liability method on temporary differences between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts for financial reporting purposes at the reporting date.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognized for all taxable temporary differences, except:

- When the deferred tax liability arises from the initial recognition of goodwill or an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and, at the time of the transaction, affects neither the accounting profit nor taxable profit or loss.
- In respect of taxable temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries, associates and interests in joint ventures, when the timing of the reversal of the temporary differences can be controlled and it is probable that the temporary differences will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets are recognized for all deductible temporary differences, the carry forward of unused tax credits and any unused tax losses. Deferred tax assets are recognized to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the deductible temporary differences, and the carry forward of unused tax credits and unused tax losses can be utilized, except:

- When the deferred tax asset relating to the deductible temporary difference arises from the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and, at the time of the transaction, affects neither the accounting profit nor taxable profit or loss.
- In respect of deductible temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries, associates and interests in joint ventures, deferred tax assets are recognized only to the extent that it is possible that the temporary differences will reverse in the foreseeable future and taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilized.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting date and reduced to the extent that is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be utilized. Unrecognized deferred tax assets are re-assessed at each reporting date and are recognized to the extent that it has become probable that future taxable profits will allow the deferred tax asset to be recovered.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the year when the asset is realized or the liability is settled, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantially enacted at the reporting date.

Deferred tax relating to items recognized outside profit or loss is recognized outside profit or loss. Deferred tax items are recognized in correlation to the underlying transaction either in OCI or directly in equity.

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are offset if a legally enforceable right exists to set off current tax assets against current income tax liabilities and the deferred taxes relate to the same taxable entity and the same taxation authority.

Tax benefits acquired as part of a business combination, but not satisfying the criteria for separate recognition at that date, are recognized subsequently if new information about facts and circumstances change. The adjustment is either treated as a reduction in goodwill (as long as it does not exceed goodwill) if it was incurred during the measurement period or recognized in profit or loss.

W. Fiduciary Accounts

Fiduciary assets held or invested on behalf of individuals and others are held on a non-discretionary basis and related risks and rewards belong to the account holders. Accordingly, these deposits are reflected as off-balance sheet accounts.

X. Leases

The Group assesses whether contract is or contains a lease, at inception of the contract. The Group recognizes a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability with respect to all lease arrangements in which it is the lessee, except for short-term leases (defined as leases with a lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets. For these leases, the Group recognizes the lease payments as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease unless another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased assets are consumed.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted by using the rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the Group uses its incremental borrowing rate.

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

1. fixed lease payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives;
2. variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date;
3. the amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
4. the exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and
5. payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease

The lease liability is presented as a separate line item in the consolidated statement of financial position.

The lease liability is subsequently measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liability (using effective interest method) and by reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made.

The Group remeasures the lease liability (and makes a corresponding adjustment to the related right-of-use asset) whenever:

6. the lease term has changed or there is a change in the assessment of exercise of a purchase option, in which case the lease liability is remeasured by discounting the revised lease payments using a revised discount rate.
7. the lease payments change due to changes in an index or rate or a change in expected payment under a guaranteed residual value, in which cases the lease liability is remeasured by discounting the revised lease payments using the initial discount rate (unless the lease payments change is due to a change in a floating interest rate, in which case a revise discount rate is used).
8. a lease contract is modified and the lease modification is not accounted for as a separate lease, in which case the lease liability is remeasured by discounting the revised lease payments using a revised discount rate.

The Group did not make any such adjustments during the periods presented.

The right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability, lease payments made at or before the commencement day, less any lease incentives received and any initial direct costs. They are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.
Whenever the Group incurs an obligation for costs to dismantle and remove a leased asset, restore the site on which it is located or restore the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease, a provision is recognized and measured under IAS 37. To the extent that the costs relate to a right-of-use asset, the costs are included in the related right-of-use asset, unless those costs are incurred to produce inventories.

The right-of-use assets are depreciated over the shorter period of lease term and useful life of the underlying asset. If a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset or the cost of the right-of-use of asset reflects that the Group expects to exercise a purchase option, the related right-of-use asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset. The depreciation starts at the commencement date of the lease.

The right-of-use of assets are presented as a separate line in the consolidated statement of financial position.

The Group applies IAS36 to determine whether a right-of-use asset is impaired and accounts for an identified impairment loss as described in the 'Impairment of Tangible and Intangible Assets' policy.

Variable rents that do not depend on an index or rate are not included in the measurement of the lease liability and the right-of-use asset. The related payments are recognized as an expense in the period in which the event or condition that triggers those payments occurs.

As a practical expedient, IFRS16 permits a lessee not to separate non-lease components, and instead account for any lease and associated non-lease components as a single arrangement. The Group has not used this practical expedient.

Y. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise balances with original maturities of a period of three months including: cash and balances with the Central Bank and deposits with other banks and financial institutions.

Z. Earnings per Share

The Group presents basic and diluted earnings per share (EPS) data for its common shares. Basic EPS is calculated by dividing the profit or loss attributable to ordinary shareholders of the Bank by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS is determined by adjusting the profit or loss attributable to ordinary shareholders and the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding for the effects of all dilutive potential common shares.

AA. Dividends

Dividends paid on common, priority and preferred shares are recognized as a liability and deducted from equity when they are approved by the General Assembly of the Bank's shareholders. Interim dividends are deducted from equity when they are declared and no longer at the discretion of the Bank.

Dividends for the year that are approved after the reporting date are disclosed as an event after the reporting date.

AB. Insurance Contracts

The Group issues contracts that transfer insurance risk.

Recognition and measurement:

Life insurance contracts protect the Group's customers from the consequences of events (such as death or disability) that would affect the ability of their dependents to maintain their current level of income. Long-term life insurance contracts issued by the Group insure human life events (for example death or survival). Premiums are shown before deduction of commission and are recognized as revenue when they become payable by the contract holder. Benefits are recorded as an expense when they are incurred. A liability for contractual benefits that are expected to be incurred in the future is recorded when the premiums are recognized. The liability is based on assumptions as to mortality, persistency and maintenance expenses that are established at the time the contract is issued.

Mathematical reserves for life insurance contracts:

Provisions for term life products are calculated as the difference between the actuarial present value of the Group's future liabilities and the actuarial present value of the policyholders' future premiums based on the tables of mortality and the actuarial interest rates as per the original tariffs. In case losses arise from liability adequacy tests, an additional provision is raised.

At each reporting date, an actuarial valuation of the life portfolio is carried out by a professional independent actuary and a technical assessment is performed in respect of mathematical reserves. Prevailing laws require that such actuarial valuation be carried out annually.

Outstanding claims reserves:

The outstanding claims reserves are made for all claims reported to the Group and still unpaid at the reporting date including an estimate for the cost of claims incurred but not reported (IBNR). Claims are recognized in the income statement when incurred based on estimated benefits.

Liability Adequacy Test:

Liability adequacy tests are performed to ensure the adequacy of the contract liabilities. In performing these tests, current best estimates of future contractual cash flows and claims handling and administration expenses, as well as investment income from the assets backing such liabilities, are used. Any deficiency is immediately charged to profit or loss by establishing a provision for losses arising from liability adequacy tests.

Deferred Acquisition Cost:

Commissions that are related to securing new contracts and renewing existing contracts are capitalized as Deferred Acquisition Cost ("DAC"). All other costs are recognized as expenses when incurred. Deferred acquisition costs are subsequently amortized over the life of the contracts. The resulting change to the carrying value of the DAC is charged to the income statement.

AC. Investment Properties

Investment property is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. An investment property is derecognized upon disposal or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefits are expected from the disposal. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the property is included in profit or loss.

Investment property is depreciated from its date of acquisition through the statement of profit and loss using the straight-line method over its estimated useful life.

The depreciation rate and method is reviewed annually to ensure it reflects the residual value and estimated useful life. Adjustments are made prospectively where there are changes. The depreciation rate used for investment property is 2.5%.

4. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the Group's accounting policies, which are described in Note 3, the directors are required to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities and the accompanying disclosures, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

A. Critical accounting judgments in applying the Group's accounting policies:

In the process of applying the Group's accounting policies, management has made the following judgments, apart from those involving estimations, which have the most significant effect in the amounts recognized in the financial statements.

Going Concern:

Notwithstanding the uncertainties resulting from the events and conditions disclosed under Note 1, these consolidated financial statements have been prepared based on the going concern assumption which assumes that the Group will have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. However, the Directors highlight that the current market circumstances and uncertainties disclosed in Note 1, which are outside their control, represent material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. The Board of Directors and those charged with governance believe that they are monitoring the current situation and taking all possible attainable remediation actions under the circumstances to ensure the sustainability of the business and viability of the Group.

Business Model Assessment:

Classification and measurement of financial assets depends on the results of the SPPI and the business model test (Refer to the financial assets sections of Note 3). The Group determines the business model at a level that reflects how groups of financial assets are managed together to achieve a particular business objective. This assessment includes judgement reflecting all relevant evidence including how the performance of the assets is evaluated and their performance measured, the risks that affect the performance of the assets and how these are managed. The Group monitors financial assets measured at amortized cost or fair value through other comprehensive income that are derecognized prior to their maturity to understand the reason for their disposal and whether the reasons are consistent with the objective of the business for which the asset was held. Monitoring is part of the Group's continuous assessment of whether the business model for which the remaining financial assets are held continues to be appropriate and if it is not appropriate whether there has been a change in business model and so a prospective change to the classification of those assets.

Significant increase of credit risk:

As explained in Note 3, ECL are measured as an allowance equal to 12-month ECL for stage 1 assets, or lifetime ECL assets for stage 2 or stage 3 assets. An asset moves to stage 2 when its credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. IFRS 9 does not define what constitutes a significant increase in credit risk. In assessing whether the credit risk of an asset has significantly increased the Group takes into account qualitative and quantitative reasonable and supportable forward looking information. Refer to Note 3 and Note 53 for more details.

Establishing groups of assets with similar credit risk characteristics:

When ECLs are measured on a collective basis, the financial instruments are grouped on the basis of shared risk characteristics. Refer to Note 3 for details of the characteristics considered in this judgement.. The Group monitors the appropriateness of the credit risk characteristics on an ongoing basis to assess whether they continue to be similar. This is required in order to ensure that should credit risk characteristics change there is appropriate re-segmentation of the assets. This may result in new portfolios being created or assets moving to an existing portfolio that better reflects the similar credit risk characteristics of that group of assets. Re-segmentation of portfolios and movement between portfolios is more common when there is a significant increase in credit risk (or when that significant increase reverses) and so assets move from 12-month to lifetime ECLs, or vice versa, but it can also occur within portfolios that continue to be measured on the same basis of 12-month or lifetime ECLs but the amount of ECL changes because the credit risk of the portfolios differ.

Models and assumptions used:

The Group uses various models and assumptions in estimating ECL. Judgement is applied in identifying the most appropriate model for each type of asset, as well as for determining the assumptions used in these models, including assumptions that relate to key drivers of credit risk. See Note 3 and Note 53 for more details on ECL.

B. Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty:

The following are the key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the statement of financial position date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

The Group based their assumptions and estimates on parameters available when the consolidated financial statements were prepared. Existing circumstances and assumptions about future developments, however, may change due to market changes or circumstances arising beyond the control of the Group. Such changes are reflected in the assumptions when they occur.

Establishing the number and relative weightings of forward-looking scenarios for each type of product/market and determining the forward looking information relevant to each scenario:

When measuring ECL the Group uses reasonable and supportable forward looking information, which is based on assumptions for the future movement of different economic drivers and how these drivers will affect each other.

Probability of default:

PD constitutes a key input in measuring ECL. PD is an estimate of the likelihood of default over a given time horizon, the calculation of which includes historical data, assumptions and expectations of future conditions.

Loss Given Default:

LGD is an estimate of the loss arising on default. It is based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due and those that the lender would expect to receive, taking into account cash flows from collateral and integral credit enhancements.

Impairment of Goodwill:

Determining whether goodwill is impaired requires an estimation of the value in use of the cash-generating units to which goodwill has been allocated. The value in use calculation requires the directors to estimate the future cash flows expected to arise from the cash-generating unit and a suitable discount rate in order to calculate present value

Impairment of investment in an associate:

The Group assess at each reporting date whether there is an indication that an investment may be impaired. If any indication exists, the Group estimates the investment's recoverable amount. When the cost of the investment exceeds the recoverable amount, the investment is considered impaired and a provision for impairment is setup representing the difference between the investment's recoverable amount and its carrying value. The provision is charged to the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

5. CASH AND DEPOSITS AT CENTRAL BANKS

	December 31, 2023 LBP'000	December 31, 2022 LBP'000
Cash on hand	1,244,476,510	1,036,688,728
Central Bank of Lebanon		
Compulsory/Regulatory deposits	884,151,000	635,511,000
Current accounts	10,391,006,152	1,811,980,341
Term placements	55,016,828,488	2,088,862,465
Term placements subject to leverage arrangements	2,893,971,588	3,024,541,258
Value adjustments (i)	-	283,841,116
	69,185,957,228	7,844,736,180
Other central banks		
Current accounts	4,210,734,991	356,040,372
Term placements	-	2,182,697
	4,210,734,991	358,223,069
Accrued interest receivable, net of tax	265,973,312	77,239,773
	74,907,142,041	9,316,887,750
Allowance for expected credit losses – Note 54	(1,409,303,478)	(128,694,586)
	73,497,838,563	9,188,193,164

Compulsory deposits with the Central Bank of Lebanon ("BDL") are non-interest bearing deposits in Lebanese Pounds computed on the basis of 25% and 15% of the average weekly sight and term customers' deposits in Lebanese Pounds in accordance with local banking regulations.

Current accounts with other central banks also include as at December 31, 2023 the equivalent in Omani Riyal (OMR) of LBP19.5billion (LBP1.96billion as at December 31, 2022) as minimum reserve requirements at Central Bank of Oman.

Current accounts with other central banks also include the equivalent in Euro of LBP0billion as at December 31, 2023 (LBP0.1billion as at December 31, 2022) deposited in accordance with banking laws and regulations in Cyprus which require banks to maintain at the Central Bank of Cyprus mandatory interest earning deposits in Euro to the extent of 1% (1% as at December 31, 2022) of banks' and customers' deposits maturing in less than two years, after deducting a fixed amount of Euro100,000.

Compulsory deposits are not available for use in the Group's day-to-day operations.

Term Placements with the Central Bank of Lebanon amounting to the equivalent in foreign currencies of LBP10,364billion and LBP1,159billion as at December 31, 2023, and 2022 respectively, deposited in accordance with local banking regulations which require banks to maintain interest earning placements in foreign currency to the extent of 14% of customers' deposits in foreign currencies, certificates of deposit and loans acquired from non-resident financial institutions.

- *Term placements with BDL subject to leverage arrangements*

Term placements with BDL subject to leverage arrangements represent non-conventional financial deals entered into with BDL that triggered investment in term placements with BDL and Lebanese Treasury bills denominated in LBP, classified at amortized cost, earning coupon rates ranging between 6.74% per annum and 11% per annum and having maturities ranging between 2023 and 2035, originated from and are pledged against the corresponding leverage arrangements with the Central Bank of Lebanon for the same amounts in LBP, bearing interest at the rate of 2% per annum and carrying same maturities, thus significantly enhancing the yield on the initial investment in U.S. Dollar. During 2019, the Group signed with Central Bank of Lebanon a netting agreement allowing to offset the "assets under leverage arrangement" versus the borrowing from the Central Bank of Lebanon. The related details are presented as follows:

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Term placements with BDL	2,661,040,928	2,661,346,000
Lebanese treasury bills classified at amortized cost	232,930,660	363,195,258
Total assets under leverage arrangements	2,893,971,588	3,024,541,258
Offsetting to leverage arrangements with BDL	(2,893,971,588)	(3,024,541,258)
Net	-	-

During 2022, an amount of LBP 80.4 billion was amortized to the consolidated statement of profit or loss and recorded under "Interest Income" for the year ended December 31, 2022. As a result, the outstanding balance of the value adjustment decreased to LBP 283.8 billion as of December 31, 2022. In 2023, the Bank recognized the remaining portion of the Day 1 profit to the consolidated statement of profit or loss, which was also recorded under "Interest Income" for the year ended December 31, 2023.

6. DEPOSITS WITH BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Checks in course of collection	10,736,213	54,590,540
Current accounts	3,643,994,921	291,237,215
Term placements	2,570,992,982	152,774,471
Pledged deposits (Note 51)	77,063,246	8,691,910
Accrued interest receivable	9,796,537	376,205
	6,312,583,899	507,670,341
Allowance for expected credit losses – Note 54	(1,243,703)	(929,785)
	6,311,340,196	506,740,556

7. FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

	December 31, 2023		
	LBP	C/V of F/Cy	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Quoted equity securities	-	6,598,824	6,598,824
Unquoted equity securities	-	15,704,250	15,704,250
Lebanese treasury bills	2,693,915	-	2,693,915
Lebanese Government bonds	-	887,630,698	887,630,698
Accrued interest receivable, net of tax	51,615	-	51,615
	2,745,530	909,933,772	912,679,302

	December 31, 2022		
	LBP	C/V of F/Cy	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Quoted equity securities	-	446,067	446,067
Unquoted equity securities	-	12,015,725	12,015,725
Lebanese treasury bills	5,138,752	-	5,138,752
Lebanese Government bonds	-	488,362	488,362
Accrued interest receivable, net of tax	102,863	-	102,863
	5,241,615	12,950,154	18,191,769

8. LOANS TO BANKS

	December 31, 2023 LBP'000	December 31, 2022 LBP'000
Discounted acceptances (a)	462,004,806	70,120,277
Short term loans (b)	1,058,914,056	154,073,865
Accrued interest receivable	10,436,772	1,194,012
Less: Deferred interest	(17,817,810)	(1,923,272)
	1,513,537,824	223,464,882
Allowance for expected credit losses – Note 54	(51,494,206)	(5,563,562)
	1,462,043,618	217,901,320

- Discounted acceptances represent facilities derived from trade finance activity (discounted letters of credit) mainly granted to Middle Eastern and African banks. These balances are denominated in foreign currencies.

- Short term loans represent short term financing provided by the Group to an associate and other banks mainly against trade finance operations.

9. LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS

	December 31, 2023		
	Gross Amount LBP'000	Expected Credit Loss LBP'000	Carrying Amount LBP'000
Performing loans:			
Retail	21,473,434,470	(160,916,174)	21,312,518,296
Corporate and SME	4,920,439,179	(312,420,248)	4,608,018,931
Credit impaired:			
Retail	269,803,610	(237,986,335)	31,817,275
Corporate and SME	4,691,139,644	(2,725,303,844)	1,965,835,800
Accrued interest receivable	77,725,145	-	77,725,145
	31,432,542,048	(3,436,626,601)	27,995,915,447

	December 31, 2022		
	Gross Amount	Expected Credit Loss	Carrying Amount
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Performing loans:			
Retail	2,281,046,876	(25,787,833)	2,255,259,043
Corporate and SME	965,298,077	(155,611,254)	809,686,823
Credit impaired:			
Retail	48,859,416	(17,580,874)	31,278,542
Corporate and SME	642,301,131	(212,032,449)	430,268,682
Accrued interest receivable	6,185,413	-	6,185,413
	3,943,690,913	(411,012,410)	3,532,678,503

Loans and advances to customers include creditors accidentally debtors' balances aggregating to LBP22.6billion as at December 31, 2023 (LBP5.7billion in 2022).

The movement of allowance for expected credit losses during 2023 and 2022 is summarized under Note 54.

10. LOANS AND ADVANCES TO RELATED PARTIES

	December 31, 2023		
	Gross Amount	Expected Credit Loss	Carrying Amount
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Performing loans:			
Retail	134,743,378	(4,899)	134,738,479
Corporate and SME	196,937,320	(12,874,626)	184,062,694
Accrued interest receivable	835,596	-	835,596
	332,516,294	(12,879,525)	319,636,769

	December 31, 2022		
	Gross Amount	Expected Credit Loss	Carrying Amount
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Performing loans:			
Retail	14,793,540	(13,400)	14,780,140
Corporate and SME	27,468,924	(1,398,603)	26,070,321
Accrued interest receivable	179,084	-	179,084
	42,441,548	(1,412,003)	41,029,545

Loans and advances to related parties are partially covered by collaterals (Refer to Note 48).

11. INVESTMENT SECURITIES

This caption consists of:

	December 31, 2023 LBP'000	December 31, 2022 LBP'000
Investment securities at fair value through other comprehensive income (A)	24,893,120	14,873,755
	24,893,120	14,873,755
Investment securities at amortized cost (B)	12,356,473,422	3,924,126,270
Accrued interest receivable, net of tax	105,424,443	30,983,038
Allowance for expected credit losses – Note 53	(359,763,168)	(1,108,390,031)
	12,102,134,697	2,846,719,277
	12,127,027,817	2,861,593,032

A. Investment securities at fair value though other comprehensive income:

Investment securities at fair value through other comprehensive income consisting of unquoted equity securities include a gross amount of LBP43.7billion as at December 31, 2023 representing the Group's share in startups/incubators established based on co-sharing agreements with the regulator providing the funding (LBP4.7billion as at December 31, 2022).

B. Investment securities at amortized cost:

	December 31, 2023			
	Amortized Cost LBP'000	Accrued Interest Receivable LBP'000	Expected Credit Loss LBP'000	Net Carrying Amount LBP'000
Lebanese treasury bills	984,367,019	7,138,136	-	991,505,155
Lebanese government bonds	354,228,447	-	(275,770,319)	78,458,128
Foreign government bonds	740,480,469	-	(15,660)	740,464,809
Certificates of deposit issued by Central Bank of Lebanon	5,155,907,741	64,237,028	(79,920,005)	5,140,224,764
Certificates of deposit issued by financial private sector	1,334,699,927	10,298,572	-	1,344,998,499
Bonds issued by financial private sector	3,786,789,819	23,750,707	(4,057,184)	3,806,483,342
	12,356,473,422	105,424,443	(359,763,168)	12,102,134,697

	December 31, 2022			
	Amortized Cost	Accrued Interest Receivable	Expected Credit Loss	Net Carrying Amount
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Lebanese treasury bills	347,189,166	4,294,077	-	351,483,243
Lebanese government bonds	1,464,574,386	-	(1,098,039,915)	366,534,471
Foreign government bonds	123,647,810	539,063	(1,320)	124,185,553
Certificates of deposit issued by Central Bank of Lebanon	1,481,787,885	23,814,200	(10,056,628)	1,495,545,457
Certificates of deposit issued by financial private sector	120,422,462	1,900,345	(11,605)	122,311,202
Bonds issued by financial private sector	386,504,561	435,353	(280,563)	386,659,351
	3,924,126,270	30,983,038	(1,108,390,031)	2,846,719,277

The Bank's business model for debt securities was amended during 2023 as a result of the credit deterioration of the Lebanese sovereign debt securities caused by the continuing Lebanese financial crisis as described in Note 1. As a result, the Bank reclassified most of its portfolio of Lebanese Government bonds (Eurobonds) denominated in foreign currency with total nominal value of LBP15,308billion from amortized cost to investment securities at fair value through profit or loss. The difference between the net carrying value of the reclassified debt securities and the fair value resulted of a loss of LBP2,951billion recognized in the consolidated statement of profit or loss (Note 37)

During 2023, the Group entered into several sales transactions of debt securities at amortized cost that resulted in gain of LBP817million in 2023 (loss of LBP24billion in 2022), recognized in the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

The sales transactions were entered into for the purpose of liquidity gap and yield management, exchange of financial assets with the Central bank of Lebanon, deterioration of the credit rating, and currency risk management.

Certain investment securities at amortized cost are pledged against term borrowings (Note 51).

12. CUSTOMERS' LIABILITY UNDER ACCEPTANCES

Acceptances represent documentary credits which the Group has committed to settle on behalf of its customers against commitments by those customers (acceptances). The commitments resulting from these acceptances are stated as a liability in the statement of financial position for the same amount.

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Customers' liability under acceptance	88,104,793	8,411,573
Allowance for expected credit losses – Note 54	(108,922)	(47,663)
	87,995,871	8,363,910

13. INVESTMENTS IN ASSOCIATES

Investment in an associate as at December 31, 2023 and 2022 consists of 20% equity stake in the share capital of Sudanese French Bank and 33% equity stake in the share capital of Beirut exchange s.a.l.(new investment occurred during 2022). The movement of the investment balance during 2023 and 2022 is as follows:

	2023	2022
	in LBP'000	in LBP'000
Balance at January 1,	60,665,361	50,666,476
Share in net profit from SFB (Note 38)	-	1,078,271
Share in net profit from BE (Note 38)	5,101,789	5,587,283
New investment in Beirut Exchange	-	3,333,331
Difference of exchange	201,573,846	-
Balance at December 31,	267,340,996	60,665,361
Less: Allowance for impairment	(25,458,553)	(25,458,553)
Less: Effect of difference of exchange	(227,860,372)	-
Net balance at December 31,	14,022,071	35,206,808

The following tables illustrate summarized financial information of the Group's investment in Sudanese French Bank (SFB):

December 31, 2022						
Total Assets	Total Liabilities	Net Assets	Net Profit	Share in Ownership	Group's share of net Assets	Group's share in Profit
LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	%	LBP'000	LBP'000
201,098,840	153,343,548	47,755,292	5,391,354	20	9,551,058	1,078,271

The following tables illustrate summarized financial information of the Group's investment in Beirut Exchange s.a.l. (BE):

December 31, 2023						
Total Assets	Total Liabilities	Net Assets	Net Profit	Share in Ownership	Group's share of net Assets	Group's share in Profit
LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	%	LBP'000	LBP'000
45,205,569	3,135,148	42,070,421	15,306,896	33.33	13,022,171	5,101,789

December 31, 2022						
Total Assets	Total Liabilities	Net Assets	Net Profit	Share in Ownership	Group's share of net Assets	Group's share in Profit
LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	%	LBP'000	LBP'000
643,433,494	616,669,969	26,763,525	16,763,525	33.33	8,920,282	5,587,283

14. ASSETS ACQUIRED IN SATISFACTION OF LOANS

Assets acquired in satisfaction of loans have been acquired through extinguishment and/or restructuring of debt.

The movement of assets acquired in satisfaction of loans was as follows:

	Real Estate LBP'000
Gross Amount:	
Balance at January 1, 2022	58,642,644
Additions	6,986,624
Disposals	(3,085,762)
Balance at December 31, 2022	62,543,506
Additions	89,232,988
Disposals	(370,123)
Balance at December 31, 2023	151,406,371
Allowance for impairment:	
Balance at January 1, 2023	(920,041)
Balance at December 31, 2023	(920,041)
Carrying Amount:	
Balance at December 31, 2023	150,486,330
Balance at December 31, 2022	61,623,465

During 2023, the Group sold assets acquired in satisfaction of loans with an aggregate cost of LBP370million (LBP3.9billion during 2022), which resulted in a gain in the amount of LBP348million (gain ofLBP1.9billion during 2022) reflected in the consolidated statement of profit or loss under "Other operating income/(loss) (net)" (Note 38).

The acquisition of assets in settlement of loans in Lebanon is regulated by the banking regulatory authorities and should be liquidated within 2 years. Up to July 20, 2018, in case of default of liquidation, a regulatory reserve should be appropriated from the yearly net profits over a period of 5 years. This reserve is reduced to 5% annually when certain conditions linked to the restructuring of non-performing loans are met and subject to the approval of the Central Bank of Lebanon. Effective July 20, 2018, the regulatory reserve of all assets acquired in satisfaction of loans where the 2 years grace period for disposal elapses on or after July 20, 2018 should be appropriated from profit over a period of 20 years. This regulatory reserve is reflected under equity. In this connection, an amount of LBP1.8billion was appropriated in 2023 (LBP1.9billion in 2022). An amount of LBP366million was transferred during 2023 to retained earnings upon the sale of the related foreclosed assets (LBP871million in 2022) (Note 29).

15. ASSETS HELD FOR SALE

In July 2023, the Bank has reclassified the assets owned by Medawar 247 S.A.L. and Medawar 1216 S.A.L. from property and equipment to assets held for sale. This decision follows the directors' resolution in July 2023 to sell the land, consisting mainly in plots in Medawar, owned by these subsidiaries for USD 38 million (LBP 570 billion). These properties were originally acquired for the Bank's expansion. The sale is expected to be completed by the end of August 2024.

16. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

The movement of property and equipment during 2023 and 2022 was as follows:

	Buildings and Real Estate LBP'000	Furniture LBP'000	Equipment LBP'000	Vehicles LBP'000	Installations and Improvement LBP'000	Advance Payments on Capital Expenditure LBP'000	Total LBP'000
Gross Amount:							
Balance at January 1, 2023	304,185,913	47,711,945	71,433,127	523,766	92,665,363	20,681,115	537,201,229
Additions	1,615,282	5,634,661	4,619,180	750,000	2,808,246	24,664,037	40,091,406
Revaluation	7,614,979,669	-	-	-	-	-	7,614,979,669
Eliminations	(36,157,234)	(359,106)	-	(41,323)	(10,712,959)	-	(47,270,622)
Transfers between categories	-	-	1,662,590	-		(1,662,590)	-
Transfers from investment properties	54,094,496	-	-	-	-	-	54,094,496
Transfers to assets held for sale	(78,611,469)	-	-	-	-	-	(78,611,469)
Write off to general and administrative	-	-	-	-	-	(15,195,555)	(15,195,555)
Effect of exchange rate changes	926,499,578	98,936,728	149,242,545	1,296,417	87,543,716	(8,375,153)	1,255,143,831
Balance at December 31, 2023	8,786,606,235	151,924,228	226,957,442	2,528,860	172,304,366	20,111,854	9,360,432,985
Accumulated depreciation:							
Balance at January 1, 2023	(47,843,841)	(36,110,788)	(64,896,241)	(410,553)	(81,926,723)	-	(231,188,146)
Charge for the year (Note 43)	(19,483,493)	(1,304,901)	(15,180,493)	(72,642)	(10,410,353)	-	(46,451,882)
Eliminations	36,157,234	275,984	-	819	10,712,959	-	47,146,996
Effect of exchange rate changes	(133,360,124)	(82,470,730)	(114,674,267)	(1,244,344)	(42,365,210)	-	(374,114,675)
Balance at December 31, 2023	(164,530,224)	(119,610,435)	(194,751,001)	(1,726,720)	(123,989,327)	-	(604,607,707)
Impairment allowance:							
Balance at December 31, 2023	(300,000)	-	-	-	-	-	(300,000)
Carrying amount:							
At December 31, 2023	8,621,776,011	32,313,793	32,206,441	802,140	48,315,039	20,111,854	8,755,525,278

	Buildings and Real Estate LBP'000	Furniture LBP'000	Equipment LBP'000	Vehicles LBP'000	Installations and Improvement LBP'000	Advance Payments on Capital Expenditure LBP'000	Total LBP'000
Gross Amount:							
Balance at January 1, 2022	311,480,109	48,232,560	68,721,924	522,552	106,153,440	13,303,869	548,414,454
Additions	14,071	29,106	3,551,369	81,384	1,870,700	10,325,211	15,871,841
Disposals	(63,723)	(259,055)	(326,932)	(75,483)	(15,403,559)	-	(16,128,752)
Transfers between categories	-	-	-	-	832,228	(832,228)	-
Write off to profit or loss	-	(167,054)	(24,230)	-	(204,858)	(2,008,399)	(2,404,541)
Effect of exchange rate changes	(7,244,544)	(123,612)	(489,004)	(4,687)	(582,588)	(107,338)	(8,551,773)
Balance at December 31, 2022	304,185,913	47,711,945	71,433,127	523,766	92,665,363	20,681,115	537,201,229
Accumulated depreciation:							
Balance at January 1, 2022	(43,884,408)	(35,571,060)	(60,896,318)	(458,578)	(88,769,333)	-	(229,579,697)
Charge for the year (Note 43)	(4,836,851)	(837,638)	(4,676,759)	(24,464)	(8,877,354)	-	(19,253,066)
Eliminated at disposals	64,065	218,686	328,754	68,770	15,373,434	-	16,053,709
Effect of exchange rate changes	813,353	79,224	348,082	3,719	346,530	-	1,590,908
Balance at December 31, 2022	(47,843,841)	(36,110,788)	(64,896,241)	(410,553)	(81,926,723)	-	(231,188,146)
Impairment allowance:							
Balance at December 31, 2022	(300,000)	-	-	-	-	-	(300,000)
Carrying amount:							
At December 31, 2022	256,042,072	11,601,157	6,536,886	113,213	10,738,640	20,681,115	305,713,083

During 2023, pursuant to the Board of Directors' resolution, the Bank engaged an independent expert to revalue its lands and buildings in accordance with Article 30 of Budget Law No. 10, dated 15 November 2022 (Budget Law 2022). The appraised value amounted to USD 89,430,416, resulting in a revaluation surplus of USD 88,326,053 converted at the rate of 86,200 LBP. This surplus was recorded net of a 5% tax, amounting to LBP 380 billion.

Additions during 2023 and 2022 to "installations and improvement", "equipment" and "advance payments on capital expenditures" represent mainly costs incurred in connection with the refurbishment of branches in Lebanon. In this connection, the Group transferred from advance payments on capital expenditures to Equipment, an amount of LBP1,662million during 2023 (LBP832million to installations and improvement during 2022) representing mainly the renovations of branches.

17. GOODWILL

	December 31, 2023			December 31, 2022		
	LBP	C/V of F/Cy	Total	LBP	C/V of F/Cy	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Beirut Life S.A.L.	452,265	-	452,265	452,265	-	452,265
Bank of Sydney Ltd	-	86,582,170	86,582,170	-	86,582,170	86,582,170
	452,265	86,582,170	87,034,435	452,265	86,582,170	87,034,435

Goodwill acquired in a business combination is allocated, at acquisition, to the cash generating units that are expected to benefit from that business combination. The Group has determined that each subsidiary constitutes a single cash generating unit and tests goodwill annually for impairment or more frequently if there are indications that goodwill might be impaired.

The recoverable amount of the cash generating unit is determined from value in use calculations or market comparability approach, as applicable. The market average multiple of equity for acquisitions of similar sized cash generating units is used to determine the recoverable amount of the cash generating unit when using the market comparability approach.

18. RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS / LEASE LIABILITY

The Group is a lessee in a number of leases consisting of retail branches. Leases of buildings and freehold improvements generally have lease terms between 2 and 12 years. The Group's obligations under its leases are secured by the lessor's title to the leased assets. Generally, the Group is restricted from assigning and subleasing the leased assets. There are several lease contracts that include extension and termination options.

The Group also has certain leases with lease terms of 12 months or less. The Group applies the 'short-term lease' recognition exemption for these leases.

Since 2020 and due to the events occurring in Lebanon as described in Note 1, the Group has closed several branches and cancelled the related lease agreements. This has led to the write-off of right-of-use assets and derecognition of lease liabilities.

The movement of the Group's right-of-use assets and lease liabilities is summarized as follows:

	Right-of-use Assets	Lease Liabilities
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Balance at December 31, 2021	20,777,757	22,207,060
Additions	1,898,896	2,125,336
Depreciation expense (Note 43)	(3,322,487)	(239,520)
Cancellation of lease contracts	(2,074,461)	(1,197,963)
Interest expense (Note 42)	-	1,022,990
Payments of lease liabilities	-	(4,715,901)
Effect of exchange rate changes	(1,085,888)	(761,126)
Balance at December 31, 2022	16,193,817	18,440,876
Additions	23,284,418	25,335,740
Depreciation expense (Note 43)	(15,641,091)	-
Cancellation of lease contracts	(10,471,738)	(10,919,073)
Interest expense (Note 42)	-	4,913,093
Payments of lease liabilities	-	(19,088,618)
Effect of exchange rate changes	49,412,128	85,688,173
Balance at December 31, 2023	62,777,534	104,370,191

19. OTHER ASSETS

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Medical costs receivable from the National Social security Fund (a)	12,874,313	12,160,288
Regulatory blocked deposit (b)	4,500,000	4,500,000
Investment properties (c)	127,167,273	19,679,315
Intangible assets (d)	138,566,194	16,716,031
Fair value of forward contracts	811,463	1,173,335
Prepayments	108,290,579	13,056,757
Foreign exchange position receivables (e)	6,646,756	123,053,356
Sundry accounts receivable	198,764,805	81,682,028
Deferred tax assets	38,207,483	5,934,220
Other	9,913,829	1,338,685
	645,742,695	279,294,015
Allowance for expected credit losses - Note 54	(51,102,188)	(4,471,913)
	594,640,507	274,822,102

a) Medical costs receivable from the Lebanese National Social Security Fund represents medical expenses settled by the Group to employees and expected to be recovered from the National Social Security Fund within three years from the date they were incurred because of substantial settlement delays.

b) The regulatory blocked deposit represents a non-interest earning compulsory deposit placed with the Lebanese Treasury upon the inception of investment banks in accordance with Article 132 of the Lebanese Code of Money and Credit, and is refundable in case of cease of operations.

c) The movement of investment properties during 2023 and 2022 is summarized as follows:

	LBP'000
Balance at January1 , 2022	21,726,512
Depreciation expense (Note 43)	(557,144)
Effect of exchange rate changes	(1,490,053)
Balance at December 31, 2022	19,679,315
Depreciation expense (Note 43)	(4,596,535)
Transfers to PPE (Note 16)	(54,094,496)
Effect of exchange rate changes	166,178,989
Balance at December 31, 2023	127,167,273

d) The movement of intangible assets is summarized as follows:

	Software LBP'000	Key Money LBP'000	Total LBP'000
Cost:			
Balance, January 1, 2022	32,389,240	1,658,250	34,047,490
Additions	5,738,957		5,738,957
Write-off to profit or loss	(88,839)	-	(88,839)
Disposals	(740,702)	-	(740,702)
Effect of exchange rate changes	(1,925,276)	-	(1,925,276)
Balance, December 31, 2022	35,373,380	1,658,250	37,031,630
Additions	23,920,994	-	23,920,994
Effect of exchange rate changes	244,667,095	-	244,667,095
Balance, December 31, 2023	303,961,469	1,658,250	305,619,719
Amortization:			
Balance, January 1, 2022	(15,415,323)	-	(15,415,323)
Amortization for the year (Note 43)	(4,632,246)	-	(4,632,246)
Disposals	740,702	-	740,702
Effect of exchange rate changes	649,518	-	649,518
Balance, December 31, 2022	(18,657,349)	-	(18,657,349)
Amortization for the year (Note 43)	(34,601,125)	(-)	(34,601,125)
Effect of exchange rate changes	(100,490,389)	-	(100,490,389)
Balance, December 31, 2023	(153,748,863)	(-)	(153,748,863)
Impairment allowance:			
Balance, January 1, 2022	-	(1,658,250)	(1,658,250)
Additions (Note 40)	-	-	-
Balance, December 31, 2022	-	(1,658,250)	(1,658,250)
Additions (Note 40)	(11,646,412)	-	(11,646,412)
Balance, December 31, 2023	(11,646,412)	(1,658,250)	(13,304,662)
Net Book Value:			
Balance, December 31, 2023	138,566,194	-	138,566,194
Balance, December 31, 2022	16,716,031	-	16,716,031

e) Foreign exchange position receivables as at December 31, 2023, consist of amounts receivable from the Central Bank of Lebanon, mainly as a result of application of Basic Circulars 151, 157 and 161.

20. DEPOSITS FROM BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Current accounts	3,275,303,483	293,409,449
Current accounts - associate bank (Note 48)	980,663	10,660
Short term deposits	1,916,108,619	423,684,917
Pledged deposits	-	7,786
Accrued interest payable	8,088,602	618,403
	5,200,481,367	717,731,215

21. DEPOSITS FROM CUSTOMERS AND RELATED PARTIES

	December 31, 2023		
	LBP	F/Cy	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Deposits from customers:			
Current and demand deposits	2,350,445,700	31,382,252,884	33,732,698,584
Term deposits	1,307,574,173	69,038,790,622	70,346,364,795
Credit accounts against loans and advances	75,647,662	790,976,821	866,624,483
Margins for irrevocable import letters of credit	-	104,469,878	104,469,878
Margins on letters of guarantee	19,885,143	196,714,720	216,599,863
Other margins	14,146,061	143,225,525	157,371,586
	3,767,698,739	101,656,430,450	105,424,129,189
Accrued interest payable	19,816,343	288,840,462	308,656,805
Total customers' deposits	3,787,515,082	101,945,270,912	105,732,785,994
Deposits from related parties:			
Current and demand deposits	4,446,641	557,154,417	561,601,058
Term deposits	503,030	864,247,587	864,750,617
Credit accounts against loans and advances	10,976	1,004,959	1,015,935
Margins on letters of guarantee	6,271	218,181	224,452
Other margins	-	3,145,888	3,145,888
	4,966,918	1,425,771,032	1,430,737,950
Accrued interest payable	6,587	7,767,205	7,773,792
Total related parties' deposits	4,973,505	1,433,538,237	1,438,511,742
Total deposits	3,792,488,587	103,378,809,149	107,171,297,736

	December 31, 2022 LBP LBP'000	F/Cy LBP'000	Total LBP'000
Deposits from customers:			
Current and demand deposits	1,645,666,677	3,046,654,485	4,692,321,162
Term deposits	1,606,611,732	7,021,275,483	8,627,887,215
Credit accounts against loans and advances	136,976,095	134,934,568	271,910,663
Margins for irrevocable import letters of credit	-	13,300,814	13,300,814
Margins on letters of guarantee	10,313,312	22,656,869	32,970,181
Other margins	13,391,403	16,506,382	29,897,785
	3,412,959,219	10,255,328,601	13,668,287,820
Accrued interest payable	30,030,313	14,997,727	45,028,040
Total customers' deposits	3,442,989,532	10,270,326,328	13,713,315,860
Deposits from related parties:			
Current and demand deposits	2,260,799	38,129,588	40,390,387
Term deposits	1,379,175	248,099,699	249,478,874
Credit accounts against loans and advances	29,317	75,277	104,594
Margins on letters of guarantee	5,972	23,419	29,391
Other margins	-	5,782,882	5,782,882
	3,675,263	292,110,865	295,786,128
Accrued interest payable	6,208	3,995,515	4,001,723
Total related parties' deposits	3,681,471	296,106,380	299,787,851
Total deposits	3,446,671,003	10,566,432,708	14,013,103,711

Deposits from customers and related parties at amortized cost are allocated by brackets of deposits as follows (excluding accrued interest payable):

	December 31, 2023 LBP Total Deposits LBP'000	F/Cy Total Deposits LBP'000	% of Customers	% of Deposits
Deposits from customers:				
Less than LBP 500 million	690,780,016	31,037,160,738	77.88	30.08
From LBP 500 million to LBP 1.5 billion	307,074,613	10,361,912,467	12.44	10.11
From LBP 1.5 billion to LBP 5 billion	299,928,508	17,672,360,564	7.09	17.04
Over LBP 5 billion	2,469,915,602	42,645,400,182	2.59	42.77
	3,767,698,739	101,716,833,951	100.00	100.00
Deposits from related parties:				
Less than LBP 500 million	638,708	210,688,972	40.11	15.42
From LBP 500 million to LBP 1.5 billion	707,591	33,472,256	19.79	2.49
From LBP 1.5 billion to LBP 5 billion	277,028	104,773,155	19.79	7.67
Over LBP 5 billion	3,343,591	1,016,433,148	20.31	74.42
	4,966,918	1,365,367,531	100.00	100.00
	3,772,665,657	103,082,201,482		

	December 31, 2022			
	LBP Total Deposits	F/Cy Total Deposits	% of Customers	% of Deposits
	LBP'000	LBP'000		
Deposits from customers:				
Less than LBP 500 million	1,259,550,987	5,408,970,999	97.15	48.79
From LBP 500 million to LBP 1.5 billion	387,133,340	1,572,470,853	2.18	14.34
From LBP 1.5 billion to LBP 5 billion	260,913,214	1,158,425,012	0.5	10.38
Over LBP 5 billion	1,505,361,678	2,115,461,737	0.17	26.49
	3,412,959,219	10,255,328,601	100.00	100.00
Deposits from related parties:				
Less than LBP 500 million	826,590	14,866,351	80.88	5.31
From LBP 500 million to LBP 1.5 billion	1,353,509	17,756,356	10.29	6.46
From LBP 1.5 billion to LBP 5 billion	572,241	14,089,453	3.43	4.96
Over LBP 5 billion	922,923	245,398,705	5.40	83.27
	3,675,263	292,110,865	100.00	100.00
	3,416,634,482	10,547,439,466		

The average balance of deposits from customers and related cost of funds over the last 3 years are as follows:

Year	Average Balance of Deposits	Allocation of Deposits		Cost of Funds	Average Cost of Funds
	LBP'000	LBP	F/Cy	LBP'000	%
		%	%		
Year 2023	60,118,590,490	6	94	876,173,535	1.47
Year 2022	14,504,394,985	23	77	104,095,156	0.72
Year 2021	14,995,686,258	21	79	144,142,545	0.96

The average balance of related parties' deposits and related cost of funds over the last 3 years are as follows:

Year	Average Balance of Deposits	Allocation of Deposits		Cost of Funds	Average Cost of Funds
	LBP'000	LBP	F/Cy	LBP'000	%
		%	%		
Year 2023	887,615,293	1	99	25,233,271	2.84
Year 2022	336,716,844	2	98	3,508,171	1.04
Year 2021	373,649,836	2	98	5,007,452	1.34

22. OTHER BORROWINGS

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Borrowings from Central Bank of Lebanon (a)	205,053,625	274,091,203
Borrowings from other central banks (b)	1,938,224,130	284,925,170
	2,143,277,755	559,016,373
Accrued interest payable	7,874,089	3,407,097
	2,151,151,844	562,423,470

(a) Borrowings from Central Bank of Lebanon as at December 31, 2023 and 2022 represent facilities in accordance with Central Bank of Lebanon Basic Decision No.6116 of March 7, 1996 and its amendments by which the Group benefited from credit facilities granted against loans that the Group granted at its own risk to customers pursuant to certain conditions, rules and mechanism.

(b) In the previous years, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and to stimulate the economy, the Reserve Bank of Australia ('RBA') provided Authorized Deposit-taking Institutions ("ADI's") access to the Term Funding Facility ("TFF"), a low cost funding facility with a 3 year term. There were no terms and conditions associated with the TFF, other than the pledging of securities the RBA eligibility criteria, as collateral. The Group accesses this funding by entering into repurchase agreements with the RBA through its banking subsidiary in Australia "Bank of Beirut Sydney LTD".

As at December 31, 2023, the Group has drawn down LBP1,938billion (AUD189million) (2022:LBP285billion (AUD281million)). The Group retains risks and rewards of the above-mentioned pledged securities, and therefore does not derecognize these assets.

The movement of other borrowings is detailed as follows:

	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Balance at January 1,	559,016,373	670,333,415
Financing cash flows	-	30,123,951
Settlements	(235,291,160)	(122,440,338)
Effect of exchange rate changes	1,819,552,542	(19,000,655)
Balance at December 31,	2,143,277,755	559,016,373

23. CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

	December 31,			
	2023		2022	
	C/V of F/Cy	Average Interest Rate	C/V of F/Cy	Average Interest Rate
	LBP'000	%	LBP'000	%
Certificates of deposit	6,641,183	4.5	606,550	2.25
Accrued interest payable	65,502		3,789	
	6,706,685		610,339	

24. OTHER LIABILITIES

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Checks and incoming payment orders in course of settlement	150,265,453	50,664,415
Fair value of derivative financial liabilities (a)	610,173	269,566
Deferred tax liability (b)	86,504,500	11,954,136
Accrued expenses	175,477,772	70,630,683
Deferred income	34,045,370	10,010,367
Income tax payable (c)	141,163,065	17,420,930
Withheld taxes	27,176,468	3,721,011
Margins on letters of credit - banks	181,503,294	29,293,952
Margins on letters of guarantee - banks	16,590,695	1,655,906
Sundry accounts payable	482,832,359	150,632,404
Unfavorable exchange difference on fixed currency position	-	80,394
	1,296,169,149	346,333,764

(a) Fair value of derivative financial liabilities consists of the following:

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Interest rate swap (Note 46)	107,628	115,322
Forward contracts	502,545	154,244
	610,173	269,566

The Group uses interest rate swaps, and forward contracts for hedging purposes only. These represent commitments to exchange one set of cash flows for another. Swaps result in an economic exchange of currencies or interest rates.

(b) The deferred tax liability consists of the following:

	December 31, 2023 LBP'000	December 31, 2022 LBP'000
Deferred tax liability on undistributed profits from subsidiaries	86,504,500	11,954,136
	86,504,500	11,954,136

The movement of deferred tax liability which relates to undistributed profits from subsidiaries during 2023 and 2022 was as follows:

	2023 LBP'000	2022 LBP'000
Balance at January 1,	11,954,136	10,731,789
Additions	63,118,362	1,222,347
Effect of difference on exchange	11,432,002	-
Balance at December 31,	86,504,500	11,954,136

At December 31, 2023 and 2022, a deferred tax liability for temporary differences related to the undistributed profits of foreign subsidiaries was not recognized on the grounds that management has committed to retain the profits in two of its foreign subsidiaries for purpose of permanent capitalization of profits.

(c) The following table explains the relationship between taxable income and accounting income:

	2023 LBP'000	2022 LBP'000
Loss before income tax	(374,440,882)	(586,971,893)
Income from subsidiaries, and foreign branches	64,284,644	2,827,427
	(310,156,238)	(584,144,466)
Add: Non-deductible expenses	1,008,591,884	252,334,922
Less: Non-taxable revenues or revenues subject to tax in previous periods	(9,162,252,674)	(154,030,952)
Taxable result Bank of Beirut SAL	(8,559,069,733)	(535,898,070)
Taxable result on Local Subsidiaries	288,208,258	21,249,291
Taxable result on foreign branches and foreign subsidiaries	285,795,131	28,808,283
Income tax (17%)	10,141,802	102,473
Add: Income tax expense on subsidiaries and foreign branches	153,719,896	5,632,149
Corporate income tax expense for the year	163,863,670	5,734,622
Carried forward balance from prior year	10,032,008	14,129,948
Less: Subsidiaries and foreign branches income tax paid	(32,732,613)	(2,443,640)
Income tax payable as at December 31,	141,163,065	17,420,930

The tax assessment for the bank have been finalized up to the year 2017. The tax returns of the Bank and most of its Lebanese subsidiaries for the years 2018 to 2023 remain subject to examination and final tax assessment by the tax authorities. Any additional liability depends on the result of these reviews.

Oman branch's tax assessments have been finalized up to the year 2020. Tax assessments for the years 2021 to 2023 have yet to be finalized by the Secretariat General for Taxation. The management believes that additional taxes, if any, in respect of open tax assessments would not be material to the Bank's results and financial position as of reporting date.

25. PROVISIONS

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Provision for staff and executive management termination indemnity (*)	210,425,138	60,999,172
Provision for risks and charges	193,388,556	12,851,162
Provision for loss on foreign currency position	194,000	194,000
Provision for insurance contracts liabilities	46,922,674	30,304,699
Provision for expected credit losses on off-balance sheet commitments (Note 54)	56,732,978	3,421,185
	507,663,346	107,770,218

(*) The movement of provision for staff and executive management termination indemnity is as follows:

	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Balance at January 1,	60,999,172	23,820,264
Additions (net) (Note 41)	113,988,489	40,034,649
Settlements	(1,035,515)	(2,855,741)
Difference of exchange	36,472,992	-
Balance at December 31,	210,425,138	60,999,172

26. SHARE CAPITAL

The authorized ordinary share capital of Bank of Beirut S.A.L. is equal to LBP89.06billion consisting of 60,996,900 fully paid shares of LBP1,460 par value each as at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

At December 31, 2019 the authorized ordinary share capital of Bank of Beirut S.A.L. was LBP82.1billion consisting of 56,234,900 fully paid shares of LBP1,460 par value each. During 2020, the Group transferred the 4,762,000 Series 2014 priority shares to common shares at par value of LBP1,460 as further explained below.

As at December 31, 2019, the Group had 4,762,000 Series 2014 priority shares in the amount of USD100,002,000 with an issue price of USD21 and a par value of LBP1,460. These priority shares earn non-cumulative annual dividends of 4% of the issue price. Any dividends remaining after the payment of priority dividends following the payment of preferred shares dividends, shall be shared on a prorata basis exclusively among the holders of the priority and common shares of the Bank.

Subject to the absence of the Extension Period set below, the earning by the Series 2014 Priority Shares of the Priority Dividend will, automatically and without the need for the approval of, or consultation with, the holders of the Priority Shares, finally cease immediately following the Ordinary General Meeting of the Bank's shareholders that will examine the Bank's audited financial statements for the financial year 2019; without prejudice, however, to the right of the holders of such Priority Shares to receive the distribution of the Priority Dividend, if any, resolved by the Bank's Ordinary General Meeting of shareholders for the financial year 2019. As a result, the Series 2014 Priority Shares will cease to be identified as a special class within the Common Shares of the Bank and become mere Common Shares subject to the rights and obligations devolving on all the Bank's Common Shares.

The Bank shall have the right, but not the obligation, to resolve, prior to the holding of the above-mentioned General Meeting, the extension of the Priority Period for two consecutive years (the "Extension Period").

On December 16, 2020, the Bank's Extraordinary General Assembly resolved that the Series 2014 Priority Shares ceased to be identified as a special class within the Common Shares of the Bank and became mere Common Shares subject to the rights and obligations devolving on all the Bank's Common Shares.

27. PREFERRED SHARES

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Non-cumulative perpetual redeemable Series "G" preferred shares	188,362,125	188,362,125
Non-cumulative perpetual redeemable Series "H" preferred shares	203,512,500	203,512,500
Non-cumulative perpetual redeemable Series "I" preferred shares	188,437,500	188,437,500
Non-cumulative perpetual redeemable Series "J" preferred shares	113,062,500	113,062,500
Non-cumulative perpetual redeemable Series "K" preferred shares	150,750,000	150,750,000
	844,124,625	844,124,625

The Group's issued preferred shares carry the following terms:

Non-cumulative perpetual redeemable preferred shares	Number of Shares	Share's issue price	Benefits	Listed on Beirut Stock Exchange
Series "G"	3,570,000	USD 35	6.75% per year	No
Series "H"	5,400,000	USD 25	7.00% per year	Yes
Series "I"	5,000,000	USD 25	6.75% per year	Yes
Series "J"	3,000,000	USD 25	6.50% per year	Yes
Series "K"	4,000,000	USD 25	6.50% per year	Yes

The Group has the right, at its sole discretion, to redeem on each redemption date all or part of the Series "G", "H", "I", "J" and "K" preferred shares (but not less than 25%). Redemption date means for the first time the financial year during which falls the 5th anniversary of the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Group's shareholders which ascertains the validity and payment of the capital increase by virtue of which the Preferred Shares are issued; and every consecutive 2 years thereafter.

In the event of liquidation of the Bank, holders of preferred shares Series "G", "H", "I", "J" and "K" rank senior to the holders of common shares.

28. SHAREHOLDERS' CASH CONTRIBUTION TO CAPITAL

The shareholders' cash contribution to capital is stated at LBP1,403billion (USD79,640,573 at LBP15,000 and USD138,429,908 at LBP1,507.5) as at December 31, 2023 (2022: LBP208.68billion (USD138,429,908)), out of which LBP20.98billion is non-interest bearing while the remaining LBP1,382.22billion carries interest at the rate ranging between 5% and 8% per annum subject to certain conditions.

This sort of instrument is accounted for in foreign currency and therefore allows hedging against national currency exchange fluctuation. According to local banking regulations, cash contribution to capital is considered as Tier I capital.

To meet the requirements of Central Bank of Lebanon towards increasing common equity Tier I as at December 31, 2018 by 20% in foreign currencies by December 31, 2020 that was later extended to February 28, 2021, the Bank's Extraordinary General Assembly of shareholders held on December 16, 2020 called for additional cash contribution from shareholders in the amount of USD 203.5 million.

On March 11, 2021, the Bank obtained the preliminary approval of the Central Bank of Lebanon on the cash contribution contracts signed with certain shareholders, and the exceptional approval to constitute 50% of the 20% cash contribution required above, through transfer of real estate by the shareholders subject to certain conditions. In this respect, the Bank transferred LBP187.7billion (USD124,513,908) from the escrow account to cash contribution to capital under equity. The preliminary approval on the cash contribution contracts signed with certain shareholders became final on June 14, 2022. As for the remaining amount of the cash contribution to capital, it was subsequently transferred during January 2023 for the amount of LBP1,195billion (USD79,639,085), along with the final approval of the Central bank of Lebanon dated June 9, 2023.

29. RESERVES

	December 31, 2023 LBP'000	December 31, 2022 LBP'000
Legal reserves (a)	223,449,842	223,444,963
Special reserves setup from net release of provision for credit losses	1,486,658	1,486,658
Reserves restricted for capital increase	40,560,677	40,560,677
Issue premiums on common shares	385,505,908	385,505,908
Non-distributable general reserves	298,381,472	298,381,472
Real estate property revaluation surplus	7,245,195,726	1,668,934
Regulatory reserve for assets acquired in satisfaction of loans (Note 14)	14,776,218	13,345,707
	8,209,356,501	964,394,319

(a) The legal reserve is constituted in conformity with the requirements of the Lebanese Money and Credit Law and the Code of Commerce on the basis of 10% of net profit for Lebanese entities. This reserve is not available for distribution. During 2023, the Group allocated LBP4.8million to legal reserves (LBP 1.14billion during 2022).

30. TREASURY SHARES

The Group is authorized to buy back up to one third of its listed shares on the Beirut Stock Exchange from its free reserves.

	December 31, 2023 USD	December 31, 2022 USD
Common shares	3,628,037	3,628,037
C/V LBP'000	5,469,266	5,469,266

31. NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS

	December 31, 2023 LBP'000	December 31, 2022 LBP'000
Share in:		
Capital	382,969	382,969
Retained earnings	2,663,605	2,530,496
Profit for the year	17,176,520	133,109
	20,223,094	3,046,574

32. DIVIDENDS PAID

There was no dividends distribution during the years 2023 and 2022.

33. INTEREST INCOME

	2023		
	Interest Income	Withheld Tax	Net Interest Income
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Interest income from:			
Deposits with central banks	1,144,040,633	(100,303,022)	1,043,737,611
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	434,888,354	-	434,888,354
Loans to banks	29,016,140	-	29,016,140
Investment securities at amortized cost	534,085,132	(22,657,872)	511,427,260
Loans and advances to customers	1,590,606,540	-	1,590,606,540
Loans and advances to related parties	8,329,213	-	8,329,213
	3,740,966,012	(122,960,894)	3,618,005,118

	2022		
	Interest Income	Withheld Tax	Net Interest Income
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Interest income from:			
Deposits with central banks	424,336,067	(50,375,785)	373,960,282
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	21,278,542	(46,213)	21,232,329
Loans to banks	3,008,117	-	3,008,117
Investment securities at amortized cost	229,272,542	(18,933,872)	210,338,670
Loans and advances to customers	273,500,307	-	273,500,307
Loans and advances to related parties	1,915,790	-	1,915,790
	953,311,365	(69,355,870)	883,955,495

34. INTEREST EXPENSE

	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Interest expense on:		
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	36,337,211	41,453,837
Deposits from customers	876,173,535	100,472,392
Deposits from related parties	25,233,271	3,508,171
Other borrowings	2,912,367	3,311,065
Certificates of deposit	219,653	9,899
	940,876,037	148,755,364

35. FEE AND COMMISSION INCOME

	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Commissions on documentary credits	85,151,501	13,426,473
Commissions on letters of guarantee	85,750,062	12,124,236
Commissions on money transfers' transactions	241,791,009	20,644,009
Insurance brokerage and service fees	66,974,780	15,857,257
Commissions on fiduciary accounts	963,117	181,906
Commissions on banking services	719,666,954	71,430,755
Commissions on credit cards	77,659,117	19,013,083
Other	315,888,106	21,092,634
	1,593,844,646	173,770,353

36. FEE AND COMMISSION EXPENSE

	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Commissions on transactions with banks and financial institutions	8,368,425	986,076
Commissions on credit cards	22,846,967	2,873,829
Commissions on fiduciary deposits	789,667	150,585
Commissions on loans	98,194	5,531,926
Commissions on money transfers transactions	29,939,820	5,062,104
Commissions on insurance transactions	4,414,176	2,831,963
Commissions on cash deposits	52,633,790	116,580,711
Other	48,311,357	9,647,404
	167,402,396	143,664,598

37. NET INTEREST AND OTHER (LOSSES)/ GAINS ON FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Interest income, net of tax	23,447,010	1,146,151
Unrealized loss (net)	(2,951,430,277)	(426,625)
Realized gain on sale	90,647	132,635
Dividends received	292,080	25,540
	(2,927,600,540)	877,701

38. OTHER OPERATING INCOME/(LOSS) (NET)

	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Share in profits of associates (Note 13)	5,101,789	6,665,554
Net Foreign exchange gain/(loss)	749,802,187	(877,349,953)
Gain on forward contracts	1,071,460	75,378
Gain on sale of assets acquired in satisfaction of loans (Note 14)	348,407	1,905,281
Gain/(Loss) on sale of property and equipment (Note 16)	153,760	(6,713)
Dividend income on other investments	180,936	64,225
Other (net)	199,282,841	14,034,885
	955,941,380	(854,611,343)

39. ALLOWANCES FOR EXPECTED CREDIT LOSSES (NET)

	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Allowances / (Write-back) for expected credit losses (Note 54)	88,783,159	(104,240)
Loss from direct write-off of loans and advances	20,205,126	1,777,540
	108,988,285	1,673,300

40. OTHER PROVISIONS (NET)

	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Provision for insurance liabilities (Note 25)	16,617,975	1,271,215
Provision for risks and charges (Note 25)	16,421,807	4,522,500
Provision for contingencies	49,495,335	191,311
Provision for impairment of intangible assets (Note 19)	11,646,412	-
Write-back of provisions and impairment	(93,023)	(719,692)
	94,088,506	5,265,334

41. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Salaries	821,776,401	132,235,128
Social security contributions	91,629,671	19,402,377
Executive board members remunerations	12,104,118	1,265,685
Provision for staff and executive management termination indemnities (Note 25)	113,988,489	40,034,649
Other staff benefits	258,969,354	79,552,150
	1,298,468,033	272,489,989

42. GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

	2023 LBP'000	2022 LBP'000
Management fees	48,703,807	3,200,406
Cleaning	15,304,563	13,332,775
Telephone, mail and other communication expenses	41,738,458	6,451,722
Office supplies	10,120,722	1,984,725
Advertising and marketing expenses	51,906,028	4,617,944
Electricity and fuel	66,957,848	15,094,249
Maintenance and repair fees	114,462,257	23,205,841
Subscription fees	14,557,236	2,316,699
Donation and gifts	8,250,533	5,695,869
Reception and entertainment	17,901,505	5,563,010
Professional and regulatory fees	102,803,070	18,611,267
Rent expense	26,088,412	15,104,747
Insurance expenses	12,564,849	1,660,314
Travel and related expenses	13,829,157	952,487
Training and research	8,140,974	897,963
Taxes and fiscal charges	75,391,293	7,097,263
Miscellaneous expenses	270,700,993	40,619,795
Finance cost on lease liability(note 18)	4,913,093	1,022,990
	904,334,798	167,430,066

43. DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION

	2023 LBP'000	2022 LBP'000
Depreciation of property and equipment (Note 16)	46,451,882	19,253,066
Amortization of deferred software charges (Note 19 (d))	34,601,125	4,632,246
Depreciation of right-of-use assets (Note 18)	15,641,091	3,322,487
Depreciation of investment properties (Note 19 (c))	4,596,535	557,144
	101,290,633	27,764,943

44. PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR THE YEAR ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE BANK

The consolidated loss for the year attributable to the equity holders of the Bank is allocated as follows:

	Year-Ended December 31, 2023		
	Loss before Tax LBP'000	Current and Deferred Tax LBP'000	Net Loss LBP'000
Bank of Beirut S.A.L.	(302,385,076)	(79,597,405)	(381,982,481)
Profit of subsidiaries:			
Bank of Beirut UK LTD	202,931,038	(49,070,781)	153,860,257
Bank of Sydney Ltd	82,864,093	(25,001,710)	57,862,383
Bank of Beirut Invest S.A.L.	98,225,667	-	98,225,667
BOB Finance S.A.L.	213,199,955	(7,780,274)	205,419,681
Cofida Holding S.A.L.	178,558,679	(50,000)	178,508,679
Beirut Broker Company S.A.L	167,322,625	(1,863,872)	165,458,753
Beirut Life S.A.L.	172,264,825	(499,628)	171,765,197
	812,981,806	(163,863,670)	649,118,136
Consolidation eliminations and adjustments	(1,187,422,688)	(62,369,278)	(1,249,791,966)
	(374,440,882)	(226,232,948)	(600,673,830)

	Year-Ended December 31, 2022		
	Loss before Tax LBP'000	Current and Deferred Tax LBP'000	Net Loss LBP'000
Bank of Beirut S.A.L.	(630,959,394)	3,202,740	(627,756,654)
Profit/(loss) of subsidiaries:			
Bank of Beirut UK LTD	9,212,819	(1,821,715)	7,391,104
Bank of Sydney Ltd	19,595,463	(5,032,653)	14,562,810
Bank of Beirut Invest S.A.L.	(1,316,092)	(102,473)	(1,418,565)
BOB Finance S.A.L.	5,645,894	(991,152)	4,654,742
Cofida Holding S.A.L.	371,463	(50,000)	321,463
Beirut Broker Company S.A.L	3,530,139	(600,123)	2,930,016
Beirut Life S.A.L.	1,670,336	(339,246)	1,331,090
Medawar 247 S.A.L.	(11,039)	-	(11,039)
Medawar 1216 S.A.L.	(11,039)	-	(11,039)
	(592,271,450)	(5,734,622)	(598,006,072)
Consolidation eliminations and adjustments	5,299,557	(736,418)	4,563,139
	(586,971,893)	(6,471,040)	(593,442,933)

45. EARNINGS/(LOSSES) PER SHARE

The computation of the basic (losses) per share is based on the Group's net income/(loss) before non-recurring income and the weighted average number of outstanding shares during each year, net of treasury shares held by the Group.

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Losses:		
Loss for the year attributable to equity holders of the Bank	(600,673,830)	(593,442,933)
Number of Shares:		
Weighted average number of ordinary shares	60,813,819	60,813,819
Weighted average number of priority shares	-	-
Weighted average number of priority and ordinary shares	60,813,819	60,813,819
Basic losses per common share	LBP (9,877)	LBP (9,758)
Diluted losses per share	LBP (9,877)	LBP (9,758)

The conversion effect of Series "G" preferred shares and Series 2014 priority shares was excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share for 2023 and 2022 since they have anti-dilutive effect.

46. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS WITH OFF-BALANCE SHEET RISKS

The guarantees and standby letters of credit and the documentary and commercial letters of credit represent financial instruments with contractual amounts representing credit risk. The guarantees and standby letters of credit represent irrevocable assurances that the Group will make payments in the event that a customer cannot meet its obligations to third parties and are not different from loans and advances on the balance sheet. However, documentary, and commercial letters of credit, which represent written undertakings by the Group on behalf of a customer authorizing a third party to draw drafts on the Group up to a stipulated amount under specific terms and conditions, are collateralized by the underlying shipments documents of goods to which they relate and, therefore, have significantly less risks.

Forward exchange contracts outstanding as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 represent positions held for customers' accounts and at their risk. The Group entered into such instruments to serve the needs of customers, and these contracts are fully hedged by the Group.

As at December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Group had an interest rate swap outstanding to hedge cash flows detailed as follows:

	December 31,			
	2023		2022	
	Original Currency AUD	C/V LBP'000	Original Currency AUD	C/V LBP'000
Principal amount	7,700,000	79,025,100	17,000,000	17,216,580
Fair value (Note 24)	10,487	107,628	113,871	115,322

47. FIDUCIARY ACCOUNTS

Fiduciary accounts are invested as follows:

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Back-to-back lending	219,333,191	31,623,413
Equity securities (long position)	2,025,726,156	131,474,310
Debt leverage	13,089,814	11,502,704
	2,258,149,161	174,600,427

48. BALANCES AND TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

In the ordinary course of its activities, the Group conducts transactions with related parties including shareholders, directors, subsidiaries and associates. Balances with related parties consist of the following:

	December 31,	
	2023	2022
	LBP'000	LBP'000
Shareholders, directors, and other key management personnel and close family members and their related companies:		
Direct facilities and credit balances:		
Secured loans and advances	-	564,308
Unsecured loans and advances	318,801,173	40,286,153
Accrued interest receivable	835,596	179,084
Deposits	(1,370,334,449)	(295,786,128)
Accrued interest payable	(6,936,833)	(4,001,724)
Indirect facilities:		
Letters of guarantee	276,700	210,745
Associates		
Direct facilities and credit balances:		
Deposits from associate (Note 20)	(980,663)	(10,660)

49. NOTE TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

A. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents for the purpose of the cash flows statement consist of the following:

	December 31, 2023 LBP'000	December 31, 2022 LBP'000
Cash on hand	1,244,476,510	1,036,688,728
Current accounts with central banks	24,313,968,771	2,640,867,812
Time deposits with central banks	9,768,000,000	1,191,684,000
Checks in course of collection	10,736,213	54,590,540
Current accounts with banks and financial institutions	3,643,994,921	291,237,215
Term placements with banks and financial institutions	1,034,613,136	151,379,717
Current accounts from banks and financial institutions	(3,276,284,147)	(293,420,109)
Short term deposits from banks and financial institutions	(1,838,910,174)	(39,529,311)
	34,900,595,230	5,033,498,592

Time deposits with and from central banks and banks and financial institutions represent inter-bank placements and borrowings with an original term of 90 days or less.

B. Non-cash transactions

The statement of cash flow is prepared after excluding the effect of the following non-cash transactions:

	December 31, 2023 LBP'000	December 31, 2022 LBP'000
Assets:		
Real estate properties revaluation	7,614,979,669	-
	7,614,979,669	-
Equity:		
Revaluation surplus	7,234,294,364	-
	7,234,294,364	-

50. CONTINGENCIES

As of the date of the consolidated statement of financial position, there are lawsuits and litigations, whereby the Group is either plaintiff or defendant, mostly resulting from the restrictive measures adopted by Lebanese banks in relation to withdrawal of funds and transfers abroad, as well as in relation to the repayment by customers of local foreign currency loans in Lebanese pound as described under Note 1.3.4. These lawsuits are pending before the competent courts and the outcome of which cannot be determined at present. Management considers that these lawsuits and litigations will not have material impact on the Group consolidated financial statements, however they may affect negatively the offshore liquidity of the Group, its foreign assets and its foreign currency mismatch.

The Bank, amongst 10 other banks in Lebanon, is defendant in a civil action brought on January 1, 2019 under the Anti-Terrorism Act ("ATA") at United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, by a group of plaintiffs claiming to have suffered losses by reason of acts of international terrorism occurring between 2004 and 2011. The Bank's management states that the Bank has not been involved in any wrong doing and has appointed lawyers to defend its case. Management is of the opinion that the risk derived from the outcome of this lawsuit is relatively low and will not result in an adverse impact on the Bank's financial statements.

51. COLLATERAL GIVEN

The carrying values of financial assets given as collateral are as follows:

	December 31, 2023				
		Corresponding Facilities			
	Pledged Amount LBP'000	Nature of Facility	Amount of Facility LBP'000	Nature of Facility	Amount of Facility LBP'000
Pledged deposits with banks	3,797,485	Performance bonds	21,180,000	-	-
Pledged deposits with banks	71,707,500	Foreign currency (Bought)	267,960,864	Foreign currency (Sold)	268,425,643
Pledged deposits with banks	1,558,261				

	December 31, 2022				
		Corresponding Facilities			
	Pledged Amount LBP'000	Nature of Facility	Amount of Facility LBP'000	Nature of Facility	Amount of Facility LBP'000
Pledged deposits with banks	381,647	Performance bonds	2,055,645	-	-
Pledged deposits with banks	7,690,263	Foreign currency (Bought)	14,234,133	Foreign currency (Sold)	14,037,451
Pledged deposits with banks	620,000				

52. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

The adequacy of the Group's capital is monitored using, among other measures, the rules and ratios established by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BIS rules/ratios) as adopted by the Central Bank of Lebanon, which is the lead supervisor of the Group.

The following are the applicable regulatory capital ratios:

	Common Tier 1 Capital Ratio	Tier 1 Capital Ratio	Total Capital Ratio
As at December 31, 2023			
Minimum required capital ratios	4.50%	6.00%	8.00%
With the full capital conservation buffer of 2.5%	7.00%	8.50%	10.50%
As at December 31, 2022			
Minimum required capital ratios	4.50%	6.00%	8.00%
With the full capital conservation buffer of 2.5%	7.00%	8.50%	10.50%

The Central Bank of Lebanon issued intermediary circular No.567 dated August 26, 2020 introducing several changes in the calculation of the regulatory capital adequacy ratios. These key changes are discussed below:

- Increasing the regulatory ECL on Lebanese government bonds in foreign currency from 9% to 45% initially and then to 75% (to be reached by December 31, 2026) and allowing the constitution of the regulatory ECL progressively over a period of five years starting from 2020, noting that the BDL Central Council may accept to extend the term to ten years for banks that manage to complete the 20% cash contribution to capital before December 31, 2020.
  Regulatory ECL for other exposures remain unchanged, i.e. exposures in foreign currency with BDL 1.89%; exposures in Lebanese Pounds with BDL and Lebanese treasury bills in Lebanese Pounds 0%.

- By February 28, 2021 (extended), banks should complete a 20% increase of the common equity tier I capital as at December 31, 2018 through issuing new foreign currency capital instruments as well as other approaches that meet the criteria for inclusion as regulatory capital. The BDL Central Council may consider for banks to complete 50% of this capital increase through transfer of real estate by the shareholders, provided these are liquidated within 5 years following regulatory approval date on this transaction.

- Banks can include 75% of the revaluation surplus of real estate properties in Common Equity Tier I capital instead of 50% in Tier II, subject to BDL approval on the revaluation. The deadline set by the regulator for the revaluation of real estate is December 31, 2023. During 2023, the Group revalued real estate properties and recorded a revaluation gain of LBP 7,235 billion at Sayrafa exchange rate of LBP 86,200 to the US Dollar in accordance with BDL Intermediary Circular 659.

- Prohibiting Lebanese banks from distributing dividends on common shares for the financial years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 as well as prohibiting banks from distributing dividends if capital adequacy ratios drop below 7% for common equity tier 1, 10% for tier 1 and 12% for total capital (compared to the regulatory minimum limits of 7%, 8.5% and 10.5% respectively, including a 2.5% capital conservation buffer).

- Banks are prohibited from distributing dividends on common shares for the years 2019 and 2020.

- As exceptional measures, 100% of ECL on Stage 1 and Stage 2 exposures (except those against sovereign and BDL exposures in local and foreign currency), may be added to common equity Tier I capital. These will be gradually amortized to 75% in 2022, 50% in 2023 and 25% in 2024.

The Group's consolidated capital adequacy ratio was as follows:

	December 31,	
	2023	**2022**
	LBP'000	**LBP'000**
Common equity (net)	12,632,849,890	541,718,209
Additional Tier I capital (net)	2,229,776,137	1,035,167,542
	14,862,626,027	1,576,885,751
Net Tier II capital	1,446,604,938	142,592,849
Total regulatory capital (including remaining net profit after distribution of dividends)	16,309,230,965	1,719,478,600
Credit risk	139,879,448,409	13,379,782,176
Market risk	23,483,302,729	1,285,152,604
Operational risk	5,487,078,573	2,125,653,750
Risk weighted assets and risk weighted off-balance sheet items	168,849,829,711	16,790,588,530
Common equity Tier I ratio	7.48%	3.23%
Tier I ratio	8.80%	9.39%
Risk based capital ratio Tier I and Tier II capital	9.66%	10.24%

The Group's capital adequacy ratio as at December 31, 2023 and 2022, similarly to other applicable regulatory ratios, was calculated based on the disclosed figures, and did not take into consideration the adjustments that will result from the uncertainties discussed under Note 1 once these uncertainties become reasonably quantifiable. Due to the high levels of these uncertainties, management is unable to estimate in a reasonable manner, the impact of these matters on the Group's capital adequacy and the recapitalization needs that may arise once the necessary adjustments are determined and recorded.

53. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Group classifies its operating segments by geographical location and by activity.

Measurement of segment assets, liabilities, income and expenses is based on the Group's accounting policies.

Segment income and expenses include transfers between segments and these transfers are conducted on arm's length terms and conditions. Shared costs are included in segments on the basis of the actual recharges made, if any.

The Group has three reportable business segments which reflect the basis on which senior management reviews operating activities, allocates capital and assesses performance.

The Group's operating segment information by geographical location is as follows:

	December 31, 2023				
	Lebanon & Middle East	Europe	Australia	Inter-segment	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Total Assets	105,532,899,124	7,059,306,434	31,994,071,568	(11,637,313,388)	132,948,963,738
Total Liabilities	85,768,841,501	4,540,506,899	28,520,170,248	(2,303,573,537)	116,525,945,111
Total Equity	19,764,057,622	2,203,971,031	3,473,901,320	(9,018,911,346)	16,423,018,627
(Loss)/Profit for the year	(37,635,711)	153,860,257	57,862,383	(791,937,279)	(617,850,350)
ASSETS					
Financial assets at fair value through P/L	912,679,302	-	-	-	912,679,302
Loans and advances to customers	3,659,329,073	787,465,852	23;549,120,522	-	27,995,915,447
Loans and advances to related parties	54,893,041	36,391,903	228,351,825	-	319,636,769
Investment securities	6,235,081,167	740,464,809	5,151,481,841	-	12,127,027,817
LIABILITIES					
Deposits from customers	77,442,300,471	2,221,531,724	26,068,953,799	-	105,732,785,994
Deposits from related parties	1,350,396,245	410,630,878	261,570,988	(584,086,369)	1,438,511,742

	December 31, 2022				
	Lebanon & Middle East	Europe	Australia	Inter-segment	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Total Assets	14,920,081,362	731,925,985	2,770,063,776	(1,266,785,614)	17,155,285,509
Total Liabilities	13,176,061,518	536,370,233	2,433,811,714	(371,418,299)	15,774,825,166
Total Equity	1,744,019,844	195,555,752	336,252,062	(895,367,315)	1,380,460,343
(Loss)/Profit for the year	(619,640,200)	7,262,631	14,562,810	4,238,717	(593,576,042)
ASSETS					
Financial assets at fair value through P/L	18,191,769	-	-	-	18,191,769
Loans and advances to customers	1,446,362,846	65,526,866	2,022,164,380	(1,375,589)	3,532,678,503
Loans and advances to related parties	14,952,115	3,338,619	22,738,811	-	41,029,545
Investment securities	2,287,711,334	64,911,146	508,970,552	-	2,861,593,032
LIABILITIES					
Deposits from customers	11,385,366,230	245,431,634	2,082,517,996	-	13,713,315,860
Deposits from related parties	415,327,118	72,211,659	22,272,901	(210,023,827)	299,787,851

	December 31, 2023				
	Lebanon & Middle East LBP'000	Europe LBP'000	Australia LBP'000	Inter-segment LBP'000	Total LBP'000
Interest income	2,344,145,755	334,158,815	1,093,260,346	(30,598,904)	3,740,966,012
Less: tax on interest	(128,211,212)	-	-	5,250,318	(122,960,894)
Interest income, net of tax	2,215,934,543	334,158,815	1,093,260,346	(25,348,586)	3,618,005,118
Interest expense	(286,238,196)	(73,422,021)	(611,814,725)	30,598,905	(940,876,037)
Net interest income	1,929,696,347	260,736,794	481,445,621	5,250,319	2,677,129,081
Fee and commission income	1,546,998,183	113,824,730	12,466,859	(79,445,126)	1,593,844,646
Fee and commission expense	(237,088,930)	(5,414,707)	(80,712)	75,181,953	(167,402,396)
Net fee and commission income	1,309,909,253	108,410,023	12,386,147	(4,263,173)	1,426,442,250
Net interest and other loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	(2,950,727,670)	23,127,130	-	-	(2,927,600,540)
Gain on derecognition of financial assets at amortized cost	-	-	817,202		817,202
Other operating income (net)	1,635,583,802	18,005,050	14,744,008	(712,391,480)	955,941,380
Net financial revenues	1,924,461,732	410,278,997	509,392,978	(711,404,334)	2,132,729,373
Allowance for expected credit losses (net)	(82,536,219)	(12,728,707)	(13,723,359)	-	(108,988,285)
Other provisions (net)	(82,442,096)	-	(11,646,410)	-	(94,088,506)
Net financial revenues after impairment	1,759,483,417	397,550,290	484,023,209	(711,404,334)	1,929,652,582
Staff costs	(1,000,934,436)	(104,384,800)	(193,148,797)	-	(1,298,468,033)
General and administrative expenses	(670,782,708)	(77,273,151)	(155,291,794)	(987,145)	(904,334,798)
Depreciation and amortization	(35,610,810)	(12,961,300)	(52,718,523)	-	(101,290,633)
Loss before income tax	52,155,463	202,931,039	82,864,095	(712,391,479)	(374,440,882)
Income tax expense	(89,791,179)	(49,070,782)	(25,001,709)	-	(163,863,670)
Loss for the year before withholding tax on profits from subsidiaries	(37,635,716)	153,860,257	57,862,386	(712,391,479)	(538,304,552)
Deferred tax on undistributed profit	-	-	-	(62,369,278)	(62,369,278)
Loss for the year	(37,635,716)	153,860,257	57,862,386	(774,760,757)	(600,673,830)

	December 31, 2022				
	Lebanon & Middle East LBP'000	Europe LBP'000	Australia LBP'000	Inter-segment LBP'000	Total LBP'000
Interest income	861,344,422	21,362,503	78,003,012	(7,398,572)	953,311,365
Less: tax on interest	(70,063,411)	-	-	707,541	(69,355,870)
Interest income, net of tax	791,281,011	21,362,503	78,003,012	(6,691,031)	883,955,495
Interest expense	(128,766,978)	(5,887,923)	(21,499,034)	7,398,571	(148,755,364)
Net interest income	662,514,033	15,474,580	56,503,978	707,540	735,200,131
Fee and commission income	160,339,065	16,460,841	1,908,419	(4,937,972)	173,770,353
Fee and commission expense	(147,429,617)	(716,610)	967	4,480,662	(143,664,598)
Net fee and commission income	12,909,448	15,744,231	1,909,386	(457,310)	30,105,755
Net interest and other gain on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	141,773	735,928	-	-	877,701
Loss from derecognition of financial assets at amortized cost	(23,920,506)	-	-		(23,920,506)
Other operating loss (net)	(863,649,400)	1,736,954	2,001,548	5,299,555	(854,611,343)
Net financial revenues	(212,004,652)	33,691,693	60,414,912	5,549,785	(112,348,262)
Allowance for expected credit losses (net)	2,348,000	(4,962,055)	940,755	-	(1,673,300)
Other provisions (net)	(5,265,334)	-	-	-	(5,265,334)
Net financial revenues after impairment	(214,921,986)	28,729,638	61,355,667	5,549,785	(119,286,896)
Staff costs	(241,270,418)	(10,625,710)	(20,593,861)	-	(272,489,989)
General and administrative expenses	(144,493,705)	(7,449,224)	(15,236,906)	(250,231)	(167,430,066)
Depreciation and amortization	(20,332,982)	(1,502,525)	(5,929,435)	-	(27,764,942)
Loss before income tax	(621,019,091)	9,152,179	19,595,465	5,299,554	(586,971,893)
Income tax expense	1,187,579	(1,889,548)	(5,032,653)	-	(5,734,622)
Loss for the year before withholding tax on profits from subsidiaries	(619,831,512)	7,262,631	14,562,812	5,299,554	(592,706,515)
Deferred tax on undistributed profit	-	-	-	(736,418)	(736,418)
Loss for the year	(619,831,512)	7,262,631	14,562,812	4,563,136	(593,442,933)

The Group's operating segment information by activity during 2023 and 2022 was as follows:

	December 31, 2023			
	Banking & Financial Institutions	Insurance and Brokerage	Inter-segment	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Total Assets	143,741,845,940	844,431,186	(11,637,313,388)	132,948,963,738
Total Liabilities	118,532,870,597	296,648,050	(2,303,573,536)	116,525,945,111
Total Equity	24,894,146,838	547,783,136	(9,018,911,347)	16,423,018,627
Loss for the year	(163,137,021)	337,223,950	(791,937,279)	(617,850,350)
Non-controlling interests	-	-	17,176,520	17,176,520

	December 31, 2022			
	Banking & Financial Institutions	Insurance and Brokerage	Inter-segment	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Total Assets	18,316,047,035	106,024,088	(1,266,785,614)	17,155,285,509
Total Liabilities	16,041,358,774	43,574,727	(310,108,335)	15,774,825,166
Total Equity	2,213,378,298	62,449,361	(895,367,316)	1,380,460,343
Loss for the year	(602,267,175)	4,261,106	4,430,027	(593,576,042)
Non-controlling interests	-	-	133,109	133,109

54. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The main risks arising from the Group's financial instruments are:
(a) Credit risk
(b) Liquidity risk
(c) Interest rate risk
(d) Foreign currency risk; and
(e) Other operational risks

The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Group's risk management framework. The Board has established various Committees at Group and each entity's level to develop and monitor the Group's risk management policies in their specified areas.

The Group's risk management policies are established to identify and analyze the risks faced by the Group, to set appropriate risk limits and controls, and to monitor risks and adherence to limits. Risk management policies and systems are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in market conditions, products and services offered. The Group, through its management standards and procedures, aims to develop a disciplined control environment, in which employees understand their roles and obligations.

A- Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that a customer or counterparty will default on its contractual obligations (whether payment of principal or interest), resulting in financial loss to the Group. Credit risk mainly arises from loans and advances to customers and other banks (including related commitments to lend such as loan or credit card facilities), investments in debt securities and derivatives that are an asset position. The Group considers all elements of credit risk exposure such as counterparty default risk, geographical risk and sector risk for risk management purposes.

Credit Risk Management

The Group's Credit Committee is responsible for managing the Group's credit risk by:

- Ensuring that the Group has appropriate credit risk practices, including an effective system of internal control, to consistently determine adequate allowances in accordance with the Group's stated policies and procedures, IFRS and relevant supervisory guidance.
- Identifying, assessing and measuring credit risk across the Group, from an individual instrument to a portfolio level.
- Creating credit policies to protect the Group against the identified risks including the requirements to obtain collateral from borrowers, to perform robust ongoing credit assessment of borrowers and to continually monitor exposures against internal risk limits.
- Limiting concentrations of exposure by type of asset, counterparties, industry, credit rating, geographic location etc.
- Establishing a robust control framework regarding the authorization structure for the approval and renewal of credit facilities.
- Developing and maintaining the Group's risk grading to categories exposures according to the degree of risk of default. Risk grades are subject to regular reviews.

Expected Credit Losses

Governance and Oversight Of Expected Credit Losses

The Group's IFRS 9 Impairment Committee, which is a committee composed of Executive Committee members, oversees the ECL measurement framework by:

- Developing and maintaining the Group's processes for measuring ECL including monitoring of credit risk, incorporation of forward looking information and the methods used to measure ECL, while also approving staging classifications for material exposures.
- Ensuring that the Group has policies and procedures in place to appropriately maintain and validate models used to assess and measure ECL.

Regularly reviewing Impairment policy requirements to maintain adherence to accounting standards and evolving business models. Key judgments inherent in policy, including the estimated life of revolving credit facilities and the quantitative criteria for assessing the Significant Increase in Credit Risk (SICR), are assessed through a combination of expert judgment and data-driven methodologies.

- Establishing a sound credit risk accounting assessment and measurement process that provides it with a strong basis for common systems, tools and data to assess credit risk and to account for ECL. Providing advice, guidance and specialist skills to business units to promote best practice throughout the Group in the management of credit risk.

ECL is estimated using a model that takes into account borrowers' exposure, internal obligor risk rating, facility characteristic, and collateral information, among others. Models are, by their nature, imperfect and incomplete representations of reality because they rely on assumptions and inputs, and so they may be subject to errors affecting the accuracy of their outputs. To manage the model risks, the Group has established a systematic approach for the development, validation, approval, implementation and on-going use of the models. Models were validated by a qualified independent risk consultant to the model development party, before first use and will be subject to annual review to perform required enhancements going forward in order to enhance the models accuracy and/or account for situations where known or expected risk factors and information have not been considered in the modelling process. Each model used in the estimation of ECL, including key inputs, are governed by a series of internal controls, which include the validation of completeness and accuracy of data, reconciliation with Finance data, and documentation of the calculation steps. ECL estimation takes into account a range of future economic scenarios, which are set using independent and qualified econometric models and expert judgment. Economic scenarios are prepared on a frequent basis, at a minimum annually, to align with the Group's medium-term planning exercise, but also in the event of significant change in the prevailing economic conditions. The scenario probability weights are also updated when the scenarios are updated.

The internal audit function performs regular audits making sure that the established credit controls and procedures are adequately designed and implemented.

Default Definition and Credit Curing

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

- The borrower is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Group in full, without recourse by the Group to actions such as realizing security (if any is held);
- The borrower is more than 90 days past due on any material credit obligation to the Group.
- 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.

Inputs into the assessment of whether a financial instrument is in default and their significance may vary over time to reflect changes in circumstances. As a part of a qualitative assessment of whether a customer is in default, the Group carefully considers whether the events listed above should result in classifying the exposures in Stage 3 for ECL calculations or whether Stage 2 is appropriate. It is the Group's policy to consider a financial instrument as "cured" and therefore re-classified out of Stage 3 when none of the default criteria have been present for a specific period of time. The decision whether to classify an asset as Stage 2 or Stage 1 once cured is dependent on the absence of significant increase in credit risk's criteria compared to initial recognition and is examined on a case by case basis.

Internal Ratings and PD Mapping Process

- Treasury (Including Sovereign) and Interbank Exposures

For non-loan exposures, external credit ratings are used and mapped to the corresponding PDs reported by credit rating agencies. These are continuously monitored and updated, and the lowest credit rating (of all rating agencies) for the counterparty and/or debt issuer is adopted.

- Commercial Loans

Group Risk Management function, which is independent from business lines, is responsible for the development and maintenance of internal rating models, and for the estimation of Probability of Default (PD) and Loss Given Default (LGD). The Group uses an internal rating scale comprised of 19 performing grades and 3 non performing grades. The grades generated by internal rating models are mapped to PDs using historical default observations that are specific to each country and loan portfolio. The mapping of rating to PD, which is done initially on a through-the-cycle basis is then adjusted to a point-in-time basis in line with IFRS 9 requirements. These internal rating models for the Group's key lending portfolios including Corporate and SME obligors incorporate both qualitative and quantitative criteria such as:

- Historical and projected financial information including debt service coverage, operations, liquidity and capital structure.
- Account behavior, repayment history and other non-financial information such as management quality, company standing and industry risk.
- Any publicly available information related to the clients from external parties. This includes external rating grades issued by rating agencies, independent analyst reports and other market disclosures.
- Any other objectively supportable information on the obligor's willingness and capacity of repayment. Internal ratings are initially assigned by the credit origination functions (i.e. business lines) and are approved and validated by the Credit Analysis Division function, which is independent from commercial lending business lines. The Credit Analysis function is responsible for ensuring that ratings assigned to obligors are accurate and updated at all times.
- Retail Loans

Retail lending comprises mainly of personal loans, car loans, credit cards and housing loans. The Group utilizes application scorecards to score retail applicants and for either, the automation of decisions according to a certain cut-off score or as a tool to support the approval or reject decision by specialized retail credit officers. To estimate the probability of default for each Retail product, the Group performs a historical behavioral analysis on the repayment history of its retail borrowers (secured and unsecured) and uses a pooling methodology to estimate the probability of default and the resulting expected losses for retail products based on past-due brackets. This estimation is then adjusted by a forward looking component in line with the IFRS9 standard.

Significant Increase In Credit Risk

As explained in Note 3, the Group monitors all financial assets that are subject to impairment requirements to assess whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, using reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. If there has been a significant increase in credit risk the Group will measure the loss allowance based on lifetime ECL rather than 12-month ECL. The Group assessment of significant increase in credit risk is being performed at least quarterly based on the following:

A) Commercial Borrowers

Migration of obligor risk rating by a certain number of notches from origination to reporting date (i.e. distance-to-default) as a key indicator of the change in the risk of default at origination with the risk of default at reporting date. The Group also considers in its assessment of significant increase in credit risk, various qualitative factors including significant adverse changes in the business condition, restructuring due to credit quality weakness during the past 12-months, classification of an exposure under the "Follow-up and Regularization" supervisory-BDL classification.

B) Retail Borrowers

Thresholds are based on the analysis of past-due data by bracket to determine significant increase in credit risk. In addition, the Group considers specific events that might be indicative of a significant increase in credit risk, such as the event of restructuring of Retail exposures.

To note that irrespective of the outcome of the above assessment, the Group presumes that the credit risk on a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition when contractual payments are more than 30 days past due, unless the Group has reasonable and supportable information that demonstrates otherwise.

The Group assesses the quality of its credit portfolio using the following credit rating methodologies:

i) External ratings from approved credit rating agencies for financial institutions and financial assets.
ii) Internal rating models that take into account both financial as well as non-financial information such as management quality, operating environment and company standing. These internal rating models include a "Corporate" model, "SME" model, "Project & Real Estate Financing" model and "High Net worth Individual" model.
iii) Internally developed scorecards to assess the creditworthiness of retail borrowers in an objective manner and streamline the decision making process.
iv) Supervisory ratings, comprising six main categories:

i) "*Regular*" includes borrowers demonstrating good to excellent financial condition, risk factors, and capacity to repay. These loans demonstrate regular and timely payment of dues, adequacy of cash flows, timely presentation of financial statements, and sufficient collateral/guarantee when required.

ii) "*Follow-up*" represents a lack of documentation related to a borrower's activity, an inconsistency between facilities' type and related conditions.

iii) *"Follow-up and Regularization"* includes credit worthy borrowers requiring close monitoring without being impaired. These loans might be showing weaknesses; insufficient or inadequate cash flows; highly leveraged; deterioration in economic sector or country where the facility is used; loan rescheduling more than once since initiation; or excess utilization above limit.

iv) *"Substandard loans"* include borrowers with incapacity to repay from identified cash flows. Also included under this category are those with recurrent late payments and financial difficulties.

v) *"Doubtful loans"* where full repayment is questioned even after liquidation of collateral. It also includes loans stagnating for over 6 months and debtors who are unable to repay restructured loans. Finally,

vi) *"Bad loans"* with no or little expected inflows from business or assets. This category also includes borrowers with significant delays and deemed insolvent.

The Group uses credit risk grades as a primary input into the determination of the term structure of the PD for exposures. The Group collects performance and default information about its credit risk exposures analyzed by jurisdiction or region and by type of product and borrower as well as by credit risk grading. The information used is both internal and external depending on the portfolio assessed.

The table below provides a mapping of the Group's internal credit risk grades to external ratings as applied to Commercial Loans:

Commercial Loans' Grading:

Group's Credit Risk Grades	Equivalent Moody's Rating	Credit Quality Description
Performing:		
1	Aaa	Low Risk
2	Aa1 to Aa3	Low Risk
3	A1 to A3	Fair Risk
4	Baa1 to Baa3	Fair Risk
5	Ba1 to Ba3	Monitoring
6	B1 to B3	Monitoring
7	Caa1	High Risk
Non-Performing		
8	Caa2 to Caa3	Substandard
9	Ca	Doubtful
10	C	Impaired

The above Credit Quality descriptions can be summarized as follows:

- Low Risk: there is a very high likelihood of the asset being recovered in full. The counterparty exhibits very high ability and willingness to meet its full obligation on due time.
- Fair Risk: there is a high likelihood that the asset will be recovered in full. The counterparty exhibits high to medium ability and willingness to meet its full obligation on due time.
- Monitoring: there is an acceptable likelihood that the asset will be recovered in full. At the lower end of this scale, there are customers that are being more closely monitored, with some evidence of reduced financial strength.
- High Risk: there is concern over the obligor's ability to make payments when due. However, this has not materialized in an event of default. Under such a classification, the borrower is continuing to make payments on due time, albeit some and/or recurring delays. The counterparty is still expected to settle all outstanding amounts of principal and interest, however with a higher probability of default.

Measurement of ECL

The Group measures ECLs based on a three probability-weighted scenario to measure the expected cash shortfalls, discounted at an approximation to the effective Interest Rate (EIR).

They key inputs into the measurements of ECL are:

- PD: the Probability of Default is an estimate of the likelihood of default over a given time horizon. It is estimated as at a point in time. The calculation is based on statistical rating models, and assessed using rating tools tailored to the various categories of counterparties and exposures. These statistical models are based on market data (where available), as well as internal data comprising both quantitative and qualitative factors. PDs are estimated considering the contractual maturities of exposures and estimated prepayment rates. The estimation is based on current conditions, adjusted to take into account estimates of future conditions that will impact PD.
- LGD: the Loss Given Default is an estimate of the loss arising in the case where a default occurs at a given time. It is based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due and those that the Group would expect to receive, including from the realization of any collateral. It is usually expressed as a percentage of the EAD. The LGD models for secured assets consider forecasts of future collateral valuation taking into account sale discounts, time to realization of collateral, cross-collateralization and seniority of claim, cost of realization of collateral and cure rates (i.e. exit from non-performing status). LGD models for unsecured assets consider time of recovery, recovery rates and seniority of claims.
- EAD: the Exposure at Default is an estimate of the exposure at a future default date, taking into account expected changes in the exposure after the reporting date, including repayments of principal and interest, whether scheduled by contract or otherwise, and expected drawdowns on committed facilities. The Group's modelling approach for EAD reflects expected changes in the balance outstanding over the lifetime of the loan exposure that are permitted by the current contractual terms, such as amortization profiles, early repayment or overpayment, changes in utilization of undrawn

commitments and credit mitigation actions taken before default. The Group uses EAD models that reflect the characteristics of the portfolios.

These parameters are generally derived from statistical models and other historical data. Forward looking information are incorporated in ECL measurements.

The Group measures ECLs using a Three-Stage Approach based on the extent of credit deterioration since origination:

- Stage 1 - Where there has not been a significant increase in credit risk (SICR) since initial recognition of a financial instrument, an amount equal to 12-months expected credit loss is recorded. The expected credit loss is computed using a probability of default occurring over the next 12 months. For these instruments with a remaining maturity of less than 12 months, probability of default corresponding to remaining term to maturity is used.
- Stage 2 - When a financial instrument experiences a SICR subsequent to origination but is not considered to be impaired, it is included in Stage 2. This requires the computation of expected credit loss based on the probability of default over the remaining estimated life of the financial instrument.
- Stage 3 - Financial instruments that are considered to be impaired are included in this stage, the allowance for credit losses captures the lifetime expected credit losses, similar to Stage 2.

The Group measures ECL considering the risk of default over the maximum contractual period (including extension options) over which the entity is exposed to credit risk and not a longer period, even if contract extension or renewal is common business practice. However, for financial instruments such as credit cards, revolving credit facilities and overdraft facilities that include both a loan and an undrawn commitment component, the Group's contractual ability to demand repayment and cancel the undrawn commitment does not limit the Group's exposure to credit losses to the contractual notice period. For such financial instruments, the Group measures ECL over the period that it is exposed to credit risk and ECL would not be mitigated by credit risk management actions, even if that period extends beyond the maximum contractual period. These financial instruments do not have a fixed term or repayment structure and have a short contractual cancellation period. However, the Group does not enforce in the normal day-to-day management, the contractual right to cancel these financial instruments. This is because these financial instruments are managed on a collective basis and are canceled only when the Group becomes aware of an increase in credit risk at the facility level. This longer period is estimated, taking into account the credit risk management actions that the Group expects to take to mitigate ECL, i.e. reduction in limits or cancellation of the loan commitment.

Groupings based on shared risks characteristics

When ECL are measured on a collective basis, the financial instruments are grouped on the basis of shared risk characteristics, such as: instrument type; credit risk grade; collateral type; date of initial recognition; remaining term to maturity; industry; geographic location of the borrower; income bracket of the borrower. The groupings are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that each group is comprised of homogenous exposures.

Write off

The Group writes off a loan / security balance (and any related allowances for impairment losses) when it determines that the loans / securities are uncollectible. This determination is reached after considering information such as the occurrence of significant changes in the borrower / issuer's financial position such as the borrower / issuer can no longer pay the obligation, or that proceeds from collateral will not be sufficient to pay back the entire exposure.

Incorporation Of Forward-Looking Information

The Group uses forward-looking information that is available without undue cost or effort in its assessment of significant increase of credit risk as well as in its measurement of ECL. The Group employs experts who use external and internal information to generate a 'base case' scenario of future forecast of relevant economic variables along with a representative range of other possible forecast scenarios (i.e. upside & downside scenarios). The external information used includes economic data and forecasts published by governmental bodies and monetary authorities.

The Group applies probabilities to the forecast scenarios identified. The base case scenario is the single most-likely outcome and consists of information used by the Group for strategic planning and budgeting. The Group has identified and documented key drivers of credit risk and credit losses for each portfolio of financial instruments and, using a statistical analysis of historical data, has estimated relationships between macro-economic variables and credit risk and credit losses. The Group has not made changes in the estimation techniques or significant assumptions made during the reporting period.

The ECL estimates have been assessed for sensitivity to changes to forecasts of the macro-variable and also together with changes to the weights assigned to the scenarios. The impact on ECL is not material. The changes were applied in isolation and to each probability weighted scenarios used to develop the estimate of expected credit losses. In reality, there will be interdependencies between the various economic inputs and the exposure to sensitivity will vary across the economic scenarios.

Risk Mitigation Policies

Collateral

The Group mainly employs collateral to mitigate credit risk. The principal collateral types for loans and advances are:

- Pledged deposits
- Mortgages over real estate properties (land, commercial and residential properties)
- Bank guarantees
- Financial instruments (equities and debt securities)
- Business other assets (such as inventories and accounts receivable)

Collateral generally is not held over loans and advances to banks, except when securities are held as part of reverse repurchase and securities borrowing activity. Collateral usually is not held against investment securities.

Other specific risk mitigation policies include:

Netting Arrangements

The Group sometimes further restricts its exposure to credit losses by entering into netting arrangements with counterparties. Netting arrangements reduce credit risk associated with favorable contracts to the extent that if a default occurs, all amounts with the counterparty are terminated and settled on a net basis.

The Group makes use of master netting agreements and other arrangements not eligible for netting under *IAS 32 Financial Instruments: Presentation* with its counterparties. Such arrangements provide for single net settlement of all financial instruments covered by the agreements in the event of default on any one contract. Although, these master netting arrangements do not normally result in an offset of balance sheet assets and liabilities (as the conditions for offsetting under IAS 32 may not apply), they, nevertheless, reduce the Group's exposure to credit risk. Although master netting arrangements may significantly reduce credit risk, it should be noted that the credit risk is eliminated only to the extent of amounts due to the same counterparty.

Credit Quality

Since year 2020, the severe and unprecedented economic situation in Lebanon exerted significant pressure on the asset quality of the domestic loan portfolio. As a result, credit quality of the Lebanese loan portfolio has declined driven by a weakening in the borrowers' creditworthiness across various segment types.

The Group monitors credit risk per class of financial instrument. The table below outlines the classes identified, as well as the financial statement line item and the note that provides an analysis of the items included in the financial statement line for each class of financial instrument.

	Notes	December 31, 2023 Gross Maximum Exposure LBP'000	December 31, 2022 Gross Maximum Exposure LBP'000
Deposits with central banks (excluding cash on hand)	5	73,662,665,531	8,280,199,022
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	6	6,312,583,899	507,670,341
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	7	912,679,302	18,191,769
Loans to banks	8	1,513,537,824	223,464,882
Loans and advances to customers	9	31,432,542,048	3,943,690,913
Loans and advances to related parties	10	332,516,294	42,441,548
Investment securities at amortized cost	11	12,461,897,865	3,955,109,308
Investment securities at fair value through other comprehensive income	11	24,893,120	14,873,755
Customers' liability under acceptances	12	88,104,793	8,411,573
Other financial assets	19	232,559,783	223,894,628
Total		126,973,980,459	17,217,947,739
Financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk		4,405,575,448	613,103,815
Fiduciary accounts	47	2,258,149,161	174,600,427
Total		6,663,724,609	787,704,242
Total credit risk exposure		133,637,705,068	18,005,651,981

An analysis of the Group's credit risk concentrations is provided in the following tables. Unless specifically indicated, for financial assets, the amounts in the table represent gross carrying amounts.

Concentration of loans by industry or sector:

	December 31, 2023						
	Agriculture	Manufacturing and Industry	Financial Services	Real Estate and Construction	Trade and Services	Others	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
BALANCE SHEET EXPOSURE							
Loans to banks	-	-	1,507,599,291	-	-	5,938,533	1,513,537,824
Loans and advances to customers	15,367,170	1,325,097,684	704,312,687	6,743,503,308	3,303,494,255	19,340,766,944	31,432,542,048
Loans and advances to related parties	-	-	5,234,518	-	62,528,447	264,753,329	332,516,294
	15,367,170	1,325,097,684	2,217,146,496	6,743,503,308	3,366,022,702	19,611,458,806	33,278,596,166

	December 31, 2022						
	Agriculture	Manufacturing and Industry	Financial Services	Real Estate and Construction	Trade and Services	Others	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
BALANCE SHEET EXPOSURE							
Loans to banks	-	-	222,864,805	-	-	600,077	223,464,882
Loans and advances to customers	4,164,434	228,170,285	253,712,529	945,151,216	596,924,257	1,915,568,193	3,943,690,914
Loans and advances to related parties	-	1,252,577	7,694,791	130	7,307,987	26,186,063	42,441,548
	4,164,434	229,422,862	484,272,125	945,151,346	604,232,244	1,942,354,333	4,209,597,344

Concentration of financial assets and liabilities by geographical location:

	December 31, 2023						
	Lebanon LBP'000	Middle East and Africa LBP'000	Europe LBP'000	North America LBP'000	Australia LBP'000	Others LBP'000	Total LBP'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS							
Cash and deposits with central banks	70,669,784,918	1,740,069,347	1,058,383,340	-	1,438,904,436	-	74,907,142,041
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	68,902,541	262,107,953	3,003,423,348	2,502,856,703	467,530,624	7,762,730	6,312,583,899
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	907,354,302	5,325,000	-	-	-	-	912,679,302
Loans to banks	-	1,503,210,619	10,327,205	-	-	-	1,513,537,824
Loans and advances to customers	4,499,846,217	2,634,299,825	725,743,250	14,901,184	23,518,218,552	39,533,020	31,432,542,048
Loans and advances to related parties	69,503,182	34,573,500	87,618	170	228,351,824	-	332,516,294
Investment securities	6,565,878,372	-	100,006,677	640,473,791	5,155,539,025	-	12,461,897,865
Customers' liability under acceptances	-	22,592,801	53,710,240	11,801,752	-	-	88,104,793
Other financial assets	170,125,648	17,619,659	242,742	11,408,870	58,055,984	-	257,452,903
	82,951,395,180	6,219,798,704	4,951,924,420	3,181,442,470	30,866,600,445	47,295,750	128,218,456,969
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES							
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	240,599,722	4,824,046,314	135,835,331	-	-	-	5,200,481,367
Deposits from customers and related parties	66,898,850,885	10,114,144,501	3,189,454,465	648,223,513	25,899,212,580	421,411,792	107,171,297,736
Liabilities under acceptance	-	1,718,981	86,385,812	-	-	-	88,104,793
Other borrowings	161,479,734	46,371,828	-	-	1,943,300,282	-	2,151,151,844
Certificates of deposit	-	-	6,706,685	-	-	-	6,706,685
Other financial liabilities	741,451,496	23,923,730	76,741,895	1,274,621	133,636,955	-	977,028,697
	68,042,381,837	15,010,205,354	3,495,124,188	649,498,134	27,976,149,817	421,411,792	115,594,771,122
Net position	14,909,013,343	(8,790,406,650)	1,456,800,232	2,531,944,336	2,890,450,628	(374,116,042)	12,623,685,847

	December 31, 2022						
	Lebanon LBP'000	Middle East and Africa LBP'000	Europe LBP'000	North America LBP'000	Australia LBP'000	Others LBP'000	Total LBP'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS							
Cash and deposits with central banks	8,954,009,224	190,578,949	109,265,735	-	63,033,842	-	9,316,887,750
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	61,738,391	11,580,110	202,311,065	186,951,220	43,453,119	1,636,436	507,670,341
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	15,334,107	535,162	2,322,500	-	-	-	18,191,769
Loans to banks	-	218,163,516	5,301,366	-	-	-	223,464,882
Loans and advances to customers	1,538,639,700	318,686,091	65,469,279	1,497,779	2,016,984,516	2,413,547	3,943,690,912
Loans and advances to related parties	16,430,882	3,265,146	6,709	-	22,738,811	-	42,441,548
Investment securities	3,321,622,802	59,311,321	9,631,699	55,280,766	509,262,720	-	3,955,109,308
Customers' liability under acceptances	-	5,430,287	2,981,286	-	-	-	8,411,573
Other financial assets	203,410,972	5,572,513	3,209,574	3,491,870	8,209,699	-	223,894,628
	14,111,186,078	813,123,095	400,499,213	247,221,635	2,663,682,707	4,049,983	18,239,762,711
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES							
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	263,876,172	442,226,442	11,540,883	-	-	87,718	717,731,215
Deposits from customers and related parties	10,226,589,582	1,120,031,603	493,725,331	67,169,505	2,059,002,836	46,584,854	14,013,103,711
Liabilities under acceptance	73,663	903,403	7,434,507	-	-	-	8,411,573
Other borrowings	277,498,300	-	-	-	284,925,170	-	562,423,470
Certificates of deposit	-	-	610,339	-	-	-	610,339
Other financial liabilities	219,814,911	33,449,988	6,550,197	2,743,472	30,510,875	-	293,069,443
	10,987,852,628	1,596,611,436	519,861,257	69,912,977	2,374,438,881	46,672,572	15,595,349,751
Net position	3,123,265,671	(783,488,341)	(119,362,044)	177,308,658	289,243,826	(42,622,589)	2,644,345,181

An analysis of the Group's credit risk exposure per class of financial asset, and "stage" without taking into account the effects of any collateral or other credit enhancements is provided in the following tables. Unless specifically indicated, for financial assets, the amounts in the table represent gross carrying amounts. For loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts, the amounts in the table represent the amounts committed or guaranteed, respectively.

Credit risk exposure per class of financial assets and stage

December 31, 2023	Gross Exposure				Impairment Allowance				
	Stage 1 LBP'000	Stage 2 LBP'000	Stage 3 LBP'000	Total LBP'000	Stage 1 LBP'000	Stage 2 LBP'000	Stage 3 LBP'000	Total LBP'000	Net Exposure LBP'000
Cash and deposits with central banks	74,907,142,041	-	-	74,907,142,041	(1,409,303,478)	-	-	(1,409,303,478)	73,497,838,563
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	6,278,056,067	34,527,832	-	6,312,583,899	(942,760)	(300,943)	-	(1,243,703)	6,311,340,196
Loans to banks	1,452,487,208	61,050,616	-	1,513,537,824	(51,061,633)	(432,573)	-	(51,494,206)	1,462,043,618
Loans and advances to customers	18,783,474,074	7,688,124,720	4,960,943,254	31,432,542,048	(31,886,294)	(441,450,128)	(2,963,290,179)	(3,436,626,601)	27,995,915,447
Loans and advances to related parties	331,707,088	809,206	-	332,516,294	(28,122)	(12,851,403)	-	(12,879,525)	319,636,769
Investment securities at amortized cost	12,107,669,418	-	354,228,447	12,461,897,865	(83,992,849)	-	(275,770,319)	(359,763,168)	12,102,134,697
Customer liabilities under acceptances	88,104,793	-	-	88,104,793	(108,922)	-	-	(108,922)	87,995,871
Other assets	257,452,903	-	-	257,452,903	(51,102,188)	-	-	(51,102,188)	206,350,715
Off-balance sheet commitments	2,881,226,424	1,445,788,703	-	4,327,015,127	(36,000,457)	(20,732,521)	-	(56,732,978)	4,270,282,149
	117,087,320,016	9,230,301,077	5,315,171,701	131,632,792,794	(1,664,426,703)	(475,767,568)	(3,239,060,498)	(5,379,254,769)	126,253,538,325

December 31, 2022	Gross Exposure				Impairment Allowance				
	Stage 1 LBP'000	Stage 2 LBP'000	Stage 3 LBP'000	Total LBP'000	Stage 1 LBP'000	Stage 2 LBP'000	Stage 3 LBP'000	Total LBP'000	Net Exposure LBP'000
Cash and deposits with central banks	9,316,887,750	-	-	9,316,887,750	(128,694,586)	-	-	(128,694,586)	9,188,193,164
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	496,473,561	11,196,780	-	507,670,341	(401,357)	(528,428)	-	(929,785)	506,740,556
Loans to banks	223,464,882	-	-	223,464,882	(5,563,562)	-	-	(5,563,562)	217,901,320
Loans and advances to customers	2,652,815,557	599,714,808	691,160,548	3,943,690,913	(419,819)	(180,979,269)	(229,613,322)	(411,012,410)	3,532,678,503
Loans and advances to related parties	38,430,338	4,011,210	-	42,441,548	(87,328)	(1,324,675)	-	(1,412,003)	41,029,545
Investment securities at amortized cost	2,492,594,862	-	1,462,514,446	3,955,109,308	(10,350,116)	-	(1,098,039,915)	(1,108,390,031)	2,846,719,277
Customer liabilities under acceptances	8,411,573	-	-	8,411,573	(20,145)	(27,518)	-	(47,663)	8,363,910
Other assets	242,086,397	-	-	242,086,397	(4,471,913)	-	-	(4,471,913)	237,614,484
Off-balance sheet commitments	413,084,117	182,543,344	-	595,627,461	(757,631)	(2,663,554)	-	(3,421,185)	592,206,276
	15,884,249,037	797,466,142	2,153,674,994	18,835,390,173	(150,766,457)	(185,523,444)	(1,327,653,237)	(1,663,943,138)	17,171,447,035

Credit risk exposure for loans and advances to customers per internal rating and stage

	December 31, 2023			
	Stage 1 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Grades 1-3: Low to fair risk	18,783,474,074	284,304,309	-	19,067,778,383
Grades 4-6: Monitoring	-	7,403,820,411	-	7,403,820,411
Grades 7-8: Substandard	-	-	778,855,467	778,855,467
Grade 9: Doubtful	-	-	4,182,087,787	4,182,087,787
Grade 10: Impaired	-	-	-	-
Total gross carrying amount	18,783,474,074	7,688,124,720	4,960,943,254	31,432,542,048
Expected credit loss	(31,886,294)	(441,450,128)	(2,963,290,179)	(3,436,626,601)
Carrying Amount	18,751,587,780	7,246,674,592	1,997,653,075	27,995,915,447

	December 31, 2022			
	Stage 1 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Grades 1-3: Low to fair risk	2,652,815,557	119,620,357		2,772,435,914
Grades 4-6: Monitoring		480,094,451		480,094,451
Grades 7-8: Substandard			322,961,811	322,961,811
Grade 9: Doubtful			368,198,737	368,198,737
Grade 10: Impaired	-	-	-	-
Total gross carrying amount	2,652,815,557	599,714,808	691,160,548	3,943,690,913
Expected credit loss	(419,819)	(180,979,269)	(229,613,322)	(411,012,410)
Carrying Amount	2,652,395,738	418,735,539	461,547,225	3,532,678,503

Movement of the allowance for expected credit losses

The movement of the allowance for expected credit losses for all class of financial assets during 2023 and 2022 is summarized as follows:

-

	Stage 1 12-Month ECL	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Balance at January 1, 2023	150,766,415	185,523,444	1,327,653,238	1,663,943,097
Net change in the loss allowance	1,463,052	87,320,107	-	88,783,159
Other movement	-	(89,057)	20,205,118	20,116,061
Effect of exchange rate changes and other movements	1,512,197,237	203,013,073	1,891,202,142	3,606,412,452
Balance at December 31, 2023	1,664,426,704	475,767,567	3,239,060,498	5,379,254,769

	Stage 1 12-Month ECL LBP'000	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL LBP'000	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL LBP'000	Total LBP'000
Balance at January 1, 2022	167,946,263	165,747,061	1,362,591,318	1,696,284,642
Net change in the loss allowance	(17,179,848)	19,865,358	(2,789,750)	(104,240)
Other movement	-	-	(32,148,330)	(32,148,330)
Effect of exchange rate changes and other movements	-	(88,975)	-	(88,975)
Balance at December 31, 2022	150,766,415	185,523,444	1,327,653,238	1,663,943,097

The movement of the allowance for expected credit losses for loans and advances to customers during 2023 and 2022 is summarized as follows:

	Stage 1 12-Month ECL LBP'000	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL LBP'000	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL LBP'000	Total LBP'000
Balance at January 1, 2023	419,819	180,979,269	229,613,322	411,012,410
Net change in the loss allowance	31,466,475	260,470,860	2,733,676,856	3,025,614,191
Balance at December 31, 2023	31,886,294	441,450,129	2,963,290,178	3,436,626,601

	Stage 1 12-Month ECL LBP'000	Stage 2 Lifetime ECL LBP'000	Stage 3 Lifetime ECL LBP'000	Total LBP'000
Balance at January 1, 2022	15,748,329	156,885,356	265,285,955	437,919,640
Net change in the loss allowance	(15,328,510)	24,093,913	(35,672,633)	(26,907,230)
Balance at December 31, 2022	419,819	180,979,269	229,613,322	411,012,410

Net change in the loss allowance includes re-measurements as a result of changes in the size of portfolios, reclassifications between stages and reallocations of provisions.

Collateral held as security and other credit enhancements

The Group holds the following collaterals received against loans and advances to customers:

	December 31, 2023									
				Fair Value of Collateral Received						
	Gross Exposure	Expected Credit Loss	Net Exposure	Pledged Funds	First Degree Mortgage on Property	Debt Securities	Bank Guarantees	Vehicles	Other	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Performing loans	26,471,598,793	(473,336,421)	25,998,262,372	3,331,149,945	54,914,704,200	47,907,613	470,503,450	90,680,522	16,000,475,724	74,855,421,454
Non-performing loans	4,960,943,254	(2,963,290,179)	1,997,653,075	148,851,551	3,792,596,184	-	-	71,218,187	1,311,042,795	5,323,708,717
	31,432,542,047	(3,436,626,600)	27,995,915,447	3,480,001,496	58,707,300,384	47,907,613	470,503,450	161,898,709	17,311,518,519	80,179,130,171

	December 31, 2022									
				Fair Value of Collateral Received						
	Gross Exposure	Expected Credit Loss	Net Exposure	Pledged Funds	First Degree Mortgage on Property	Debt Securities	Bank Guarantees	Vehicles	Other	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Performing loans	3,252,530,366	(181,399,087)	3,071,131,279	372,836,846	6,285,990,167	47,907,613	35,647,270	25,450,624	1,781,756,081	8,549,588,601
Non-performing loans	691,160,547	(229,613,323)	461,547,224	17,551,671	546,652,896	-	-	8,513,706	181,473,178	754,191,451
	3,943,690,913	(411,012,410)	3,532,678,503	390,388,517	6,832,643,063	47,907,613	35,647,270	33,964,330	1,963,229,259	9,303,780,052

B – Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group will be unable to meet its net funding requirements. Liquidity risk can be caused by market disruptions or credit downgrades, which may cause certain sources of funding to dry up immediately.

Regulatory requirements

The liquidity position is assessed and managed under a variety of scenarios, giving due consideration to stress factors relating to both the market in general, and specifically to the Group. In Lebanon and since October 2019 events, the Group monitors on a daily basis the ratio of available international foreign currency liquidity to international commitments over various time horizons. The Central Bank of Lebanon, through its Basic circular 154 dated 27 August 2020, issued various requirements aiming at restoring the normal banking operations in Lebanon to their pre-October 2019 levels. Among these requirements, Lebanese banks were requested to maintain total current account balance with foreign correspondent banks (international liquidity that is free of any obligation) in excess of 3% of the bank's total foreign currency deposits as at 31 July 2020 by February 28, 2021. On December 24, 2020, the Banking Control Commission of Lebanon issued memo 18/2020 that contains guidance for the calculation of this ratio. The Bank submitted to the regulator an adjusted calculation for meeting these requirements. The approval of the regulator for meeting this ratio is pending as of the date of these financial statements.

Management of liquidity risk

Liquidity is the "Group's ability to ensure the availability of funds to meet commitments (including off-balance sheet commitments) at a reasonable price at all times." In 'business as usual' circumstances the day-to-day cash management of a bank should not lead to any threats to its solvency.

Liquidity risk is defined as the risk of the Group's ability to meet its current and future payment obligations in full or on time.

Liquidity risk arises when, in the case of a liquidity crisis, refinancing may only be raised at higher market rates (funding risk) or assets may only be liquidated at a discount to the market rates (market liquidity risk). It also results from the mismatches in the maturity pattern of assets and liabilities.

a) Liquidity Measurement

Liquidity is measured on a "business as usual basis" using:

- Balance Sheet Liquidity Ratios (purchased and stored liquidity ratios): such as immediate liquidity, loans / deposits, liquid assets ratio, interbank ratio, medium-term funding ratio, wholesale borrowing capacity, etc.
- The liquidity relationship between the sub-components of the balance sheet at a particular point in time: Cash Flow Gap Scheduling which is the Gap between cash inflows and outflows determined within a series of time buckets.
- Stress testing: by stress testing "the business as usual" assumptions via standardized scenarios, the potential shortage of liquidity can be measured. This shortage needs to be covered by the Liquidity Buffer, which consists of unencumbered assets that can be reported or used as collateral at a Central Bank to generate cash.

The Bank's objectives are to comply with the Central Bank instructions for liquidity risk monitoring and set other internal prudential limits as described hereafter. Some of the internal limits are:

- Liquidity gap ratios for Lebanese Pounds and foreign currencies (special focus on the foreign currencies): One month GAP/Tier One Capital
- Liquid assets in foreign currencies (including Placement with the Central Bank) / Total Deposits in foreign currencies.
- Placements with Non Resident Banks in foreign currencies/Total Deposits in foreign currencies
- Long-term foreign currency Funds (including equity)/Long-term Loans (above one year)

b) The Contingency Funding Plan

Liquidity problems will usually arise only when the Group encounters a crisis. In this case, there is a need to put in place a Contingency Funding Plan that both quantifies the adequacy of the Bank's resources (Liquidity Buffer) to withstand a set of potential liquidity crises and sets out an Action Plan to be activated in the event of a liquidity crisis.

A mechanism to identify stress situations ahead of time, and to plan dealing with such unusual situations in a timely and effective manner should be in existence. The Contingency Plan is reviewed regularly and tested.

The responsibilities and authorities of overseeing efficient implementation of liquidity risk mitigation is distributed in the best way to achieve proficient handling of the problems facing the Group and thus ensuring a smooth continuation of the activity without jeopardizing the business. Accordingly, officials and committees of the Group (namely ALCO, Treasury Department, Finance Department) assess the situation, decide on the activation of the contingency plan and act as follows:

- ALCO Committee is informed immediately, and quickly makes its assessment as to whether the plan should be activated.
- ALCO Committee takes all major decisions on loans or deposits, investment purchases, borrowing, whether to stop making additional loans, etc.
- ALCO Committee provides general, ongoing guidance on communicating with major depositors and other sources of funding, internal staff, and the press.
- The Treasury Department is responsible for maintaining sufficient liquidity to meet the Bank's obligations and to meet the specific liquidity requirements of the supervisory authorities. The key measure used by the Bank for managing liquidity risk is the ratio of behaviorally adjusted net liquid assets (maturing in less than one month) to total deposits.
- In the unlikely event of a liquidity crisis, the Treasury Department would immediately endeavour to sell the Group's liquid assets, or if more expedient, seek additional funds from the shareholders or borrow in the market to alleviate the shortfall.

Residual contractual maturities of financial assets and liabilities:

The tables below show the gross carrying value of the Group's financial assets and liabilities segregated by maturity (excluding provision for expected credit losses):

	December 31, 2023							
	With No Maturity LBP'000	Up to 3 Months LBP'000	3 Months to 1 Year LBP'000	1 to 3 Years LBP'000	3 to 5 Years LBP'000	5 to 10 Years LBP'000	Over 10 Years LBP'000	Total LBP'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS								
Cash and deposits at central banks	1,302,840,158	34,317,593,017	4,117,500,000	7,784,873,794	2,484,000,000	12,772,800,000	12,127,535,072	74,907,142,041
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	944,108,935	5,368,474,964	-	-	-	-	-	6,312,583,899
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	9,254,250	73,103,023	129,934,547	401,654,662	195,956,675	102,415,770	360,375	912,679,302
Loans to banks	29,203,249	1,402,847,051	81,487,524	-	-	-	-	1,513,537,824
Loans and advances to customers	4,201,173,096	2,071,221,119	2,831,555,240	1,026,496,812	320,399,203	742,353,229	20,239,343,349	31,432,542,048
Loans and advances to related parties	64,356,004	5,234,966	95,619,106	-	-	1,992,188	165,314,030	332,516,294
Investment securities	285,420,935	1,567,412,520	2,239,541,240	3,092,846,407	750,705,720	1,102,245,657	3,423,725,386	12,461,897,865
Customers' liability under acceptances	5,606	55,229,554	32,869,633	-	-	-	-	88,104,793
Other financial assets	112,421,504	17,325,945	40,179,789	57,246,469	-	30,279,196	-	257,452,903
	6,948,783,737	44,878,442,159	9,568,687,079	12,363,118,144	3,751,061,598	14,752,086,040	35,956,278,212	128,218,456,969
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES								
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	1,438,313,776	2,150,702,256	1,611,465,335	-	-	-	-	5,200,481,367
Customer's and related parties' deposits	890,121,235	89,179,267,168	13,594,647,353	1,442,898,871	1,622,079,526	245,359,986	196,923,597	107,171,297,736
Liabilities under acceptance	-	55,235,160	32,869,633	-	-	-	-	88,104,793
Other borrowings	-	466,219,910	-	1,526,250,137	-	158,681,797	-	2,151,151,844
Certificates of deposit	65,502	-	6,641,183	-	-	-	-	6,706,685
Other financial liabilities	609,049,900	201,178,098	36,382,489	94,047,627	(21)	36,370,604	-	977,028,697
	2,937,550,413	92,052,602,592	15,282,005,993	3,063,196,635	1,622,079,505	440,412,387	196,923,597	115,594,771,122
Net Maturity Gap	4,011,233,324	(47,174,160,433)	(5,713,318,914)	9,299,921,509	2,128,982,093	14,311,673,653	35,759,354,615	12,623,685,847

	December 31, 2022							
	With No Maturity LBP'000	Up to 3 Months LBP'000	3 Months to 1 Year LBP'000	1 to 3 Years LBP'000	3 to 5 Years LBP'000	5 to 10 Years LBP'000	Over 10 Years LBP'000	Total LBP'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS								
Cash and deposits at central banks	109,139,203	5,296,992,787	105,525,000	940,830,750	214,969,500	1,139,550,938	1,509,879,572	9,316,887,750
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	77,496,691	430,173,650	-	-	-	-	-	507,670,341
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	12,564,654	97,532	2,362,644	2,999,986	4,229	154,184	8,540	18,191,769
Loans to banks	8,503,108	191,650,398	23,311,376	-	-	-	-	223,464,882
Loans and advances to customers	334,219,737	953,620,747	398,607,557	134,590,135	62,351,239	219,610,336	1,840,691,162	3,943,690,913
Loans and advances to related parties	73,473	16,364,119	-	3,265,146	-	213,862	22,524,948	42,441,548
Investment securities	-	303,329,742	247,708,616	1,171,211,829	674,459,197	347,080,381	1,211,319,543	3,955,109,308
Customers' liability under acceptances	-	7,419,826	991,747	-	-	-	-	8,411,573
Other financial assets	198,808,092	5,048,708	2,745,922	13,268,429	4,023,477	-	-	223,894,628
	740,804,958	7,204,697,509	781,252,862	2,266,166,275	955,807,642	1,706,609,701	4,584,423,765	18,239,762,712
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES								
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	97,447,443	224,595,989	328,818,863	66,868,920	-	-	-	717,731,215
Customer's and related parties' deposits	152,634,051	11,898,453,912	1,618,345,151	78,820,803	121,090,276	49,396,196	94,363,322	14,013,103,711
Liabilities under acceptance	-	7,419,826	991,747	-	-	-	-	8,411,573
Other borrowings	-	288,332,267	-	-	-	274,091,203	-	562,423,470
Certificates of deposit	3,789	-	606,550	-	-	-	-	610,339
Other financial liabilities	278,202,897	8,580,605	6,285,941	-	-	-	-	293,069,443
	528,288,180	12,427,382,599	1,955,048,252	145,689,723	121,090,276	323,487,399	94,363,322	15,595,349,751
Net Maturity Gap	212,516,778	(5,222,752,869)	(1,173,795,390)	2,120,476,552	834,717,366	1,383,122,302	4,490,060,443	2,644,345,182

C – Market Risks

The market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will be affected because of changes in market prices such as interest rate, equity prices, foreign exchange and credit spreads.

Management of market risks

a) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk arises when there is a mismatch between positions, which are subject to interest rate adjustment within a specified period. The Group's lending, funding and investment activities give rise to interest rate risk. The immediate impact of variation in interest rate is on Group's net interest income, while a long term impact is on Group's net worth since the economic value of Group's assets, liabilities and off-balance sheet exposures are affected.

b) Interest Rate Risk Measurement

Major concern is to be given to interest rates movements both in the local and international markets whenever hedging against rates rise should be undertaken as part of the Group's strategy.

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will affect the Group's income or the value of its holdings group of financial instruments. The objective of interest rate risk management is to manage and control interest rate risk exposure within acceptable parameters while optimizing the return on risk.

Interest rate risk originating from banking activities arises partly from the employment of non-interest bearing liabilities such as shareholders' funds and customer current accounts, but also from the gaps that arise from the normal course of business.

The policy of the Group is to price all placements / exposures at floating rates or at fixed rates for fixed periods on appropriate rollover dates that allow for matching in the market.

Interest rate sensitivity analysis for financial assets and financial liabilities as at December 31, 2023:

	Interest Rate Sensitivity Balance Sheet													
		Floating						Fixed						
	Non-Interest Generating	Up to 3 Months	3 Months to 1 Year	1 to3 Years	3 to 5 Years	Over 5 Years	Total	Up to 3 Months	3 Months to 1 Year	1 to 3 Years	3 to 5 Years	Over 5 Years	Total	Grand Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS														
Cash and deposits at central bank	23,197,656,331	2,493,166,462	-	-	- -	-	2,493,166,462	9,929,610,382	4,117,500,000	7,784,873,794	2,484,000,000	24,900,335,072	49,216,319,248	74,907,142,041
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	279,149,430	706,649,240	-	-	-	-	706,649,240	5,326,785,229	-	-	-	-	5,326,785,229	6,312,583,899
Financial assets at fair value through Profit or loss	22,354,690	-	-	-	-	-	-	73,051,406	129,934,547	388,605,838	195,956,675	102,776,146	890,324,612	912,679,302
Loans to banks	10,605,652	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,421,444,648	81,487,524	-	-	-	1,502,932,172	1,513,537,824
Loans and advances to customers	4,143,213,727	575,637,644	993,794,863	328,255,156	125,569,464	20,311,915,026	22,335,172,153	1,794,925,158	1,747,782,258	610,956,500	144,258,425	656,233,827	4,954,156,168	31,432,542,048
Loans and advances to related parties	64,356,004	-	34,573,500	-	-	167,306,219	201,879,719	9,963,856	56,316,715	-	-	-	66,280,571	332,516,294
Investment in securities	351,176,622	3,377,859,157	-	207,373,030	-	-	3,585,232,187	1,373,113,612	1,428,579,349	1,028,279,325	110,371,378	4,585,145,392	8,525,489,056	12,461,897,865
Customers' liability under acceptance	88,104,793	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	88,104,793
Other financial assets	256,643,388	809,515	-	-	-	-	809,515	-	-	-	-	-	-	257,452,903
	28,413,260,637	7,154,122,018	1,028,368,363	535,628,186	125,569,464	20,479,221,245	29,322,909,276	19,928,894,291	7,561,600,393	9,812,715,457	2,934,586,478	30,244,490,437	70,482,287,056	128,218,456,969
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	1,446,306,576	35,012,976	-	-	-	-	35,012,976	2,107,696,480	1,611,465,335	-	-	-	3,719,161,815	5,200,481,367
Customers and related parties ' deposits at amortized cost	1,199,305,366	6,686,713,538	-	-	-	-	6,686,713,538	82,664,459,305	13,494,478,751	1,436,431,354	1,585,300,390	104,609,032	99,285,278,832	107,171,297,736
Liabilities under acceptance	88,104,793	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	88,104,793
Other borrowings	2,797,937	417,050,144	-	1,526,250,138	-	-	1,943,300,282	46,371,828	-	-	-	158,681,797	205,053,625	2,151,151,844
Certificates of deposit	65,502	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,641,183	-	-	-	6,641,183	6,706,685
Other financial liabilities	938,439,019	22,595,173	-	-	-	-	22,595,173	15,994,505	-	-	-	-	15,994,505	977,028,697
	3,675,019,193	7,161,371,831	-	1,526,250,138	-	-	8,687,621,969	84,834,522,118	15,112,585,269	1,436,431,354	1,585,300,390	263,290,829	103,232,129,960	115,594,771,122
Interest rate Gap	24,738,241,444	(7,249,813)	1,028,368,363	(990,621,952)	125,569,464	20,479,221,245	20,635,287,307	(64,905,627,827)	(7,550,984,876)	8,376,284,103	1,349,286,088	29,981,199,608	(32,749,842,904)	12,623,685,847

Interest rate sensitivity analysis for financial assets and financial liabilities as at December 31, 2022:

	Interest Rate Sensitivity Balance Sheet													
		Floating						Fixed						
	Non-Interest Generating LBP'000	Up to 3 Months LBP'000	3 Months to 1 Year LBP'000	1 to3 Years LBP'000	3 to 5 Years LBP'000	Over 5 Years LBP'000	Total LBP'000	Up to 3 Months LBP'000	3 Months to 1 Year LBP'000	1 to 3 Years LBP'000	3 to 5 Years LBP'000	Over 5 Years LBP'000	Total LBP'000	Grand Total LBP'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS														
Cash and deposits at central bank	3,842,301,195	171,872,043	-	-	- -	-	171,872,043	1,394,016,490	105,525,000	940,830,750	214,969,500	2,647,372,772	5,302,714,512	9,316,887,750
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	7,466,821	121,575,249	-	-	-	-	121,575,249	378,628,271	-	-	-	-	378,628,271	507,670,341
Financial assets at fair value through Profit or loss	12,394,013	-	-	-	-	-	-	268,173	2,362,644	2,999,986	4,229	162,724	5,797,756	18,191,769
Loans to banks	6,729,508	-	-	-	-	-	-	193,423,998	23,311,376	-	-	-	216,735,374	223,464,882
Loans and advances to customers	324,100,226	48,024,692	101,242,041	46,253,702	4,550,088	1,646,189,168	1,846,259,691	957,417,813	275,068,122	76,629,478	47,222,421	416,993,161	1,773,330,995	3,943,690,912
Loans and advances to related parties	180,179	16,257,412	-	3,265,146	-	17,155,759	36,678,317	-	-	-	-	5,583,052	5,583,052	42,441,548
Investment in securities	17,391,788	316,156,630	-	23,316,608	10,187,699	-	349,660,937	250,650,181	191,150,659	1,022,188,050	565,667,769	1,558,399,924	3,588,056,583	3,955,109,308
Customers' liability under acceptance	8,411,573	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,411,573
Other financial assets	223,065,414	829,214	-	-	-	-	829,214	-	-	-	-	-	-	223,894,628
	4,442,040,717	674,715,240	101,242,041	72,835,456	14,737,787	1,663,344,927	2,526,875,451	3,174,404,926	597,417,801	2,042,648,264	827,863,919	4,628,511,633	11,270,846,543	18,239,694,932
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	98,062,204	5,011,746	-	-	-	-	5,011,746	218,969,482	328,818,863	66,868,920	-	-	614,657,265	717,731,215
Customers and related parties ' deposits at amortized cost	217,082,652	720,310,727	-	-	-	-	720,310,727	11,179,727,107	1,603,807,019	75,708,721	115,391,323	101,076,162	13,075,710,332	14,013,103,711
Liabilities under acceptance	8,411,573	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,411,573
Other borrowings	3,407,097	284,925,170	-	-	-	-	284,925,170	-	-	-	-	274,091,203	274,091,203	562,423,470
Certificates of deposit	3,789	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	606,550	-	-	-	606,550	610,339
Other financial liabilities	274,465,824	3,737,073	-	-	-	-	3,737,073	8,580,605	6,285,941	-	-	-	14,866,546	293,069,443
	601,433,139	1,013,984,716	-	-	-	-	1,013,984,716	11,407,277,194	1,939,518,373	142,577,641	115,391,323	375,167,365	13,979,931,896	15,595,349,751
Interest rate Gap	3,840,539,799	(339,269,476)	101,242,041	72,835,456	14,737,787	1,663,344,927	1,512,890,735	(8,232,872,268)	(1,342,100,572)	1,900,070,623	712,472,596	4,253,344,268	(2,709,085,353)	2,644,345,181

Interest Rate Sensitivity

The impact of interest rate changes on net interest income is due to assumed changes in interest paid and received on floating rate financial assets and liabilities and to the reinvestment or refunding of fixed rated financial assets and liabilities at the assumed rates. Given the prolonged nature of the economic crisis and the high levels of uncertainty the Group expects lower interest rates during 2021. However, the Group is unable to determine what would be a reasonably possible change in interest rates. The Central Bank of Lebanon has already decreased interest rates through its circulars. In addition, during 2020, ABL recommended all Lebanese banks to decrease the interest rates on both assets (loans) and liabilities (deposits). This was followed by a decision by ABL to cap the rates to BRR + 2 until the end of 2020. As a result, all interest rates on deposits across Lebanese banks were virtually the same, eliminating the competition.

Foreign Exchange Risk

Foreign exchange risk is the risk that changes in foreign currency rates will affect the Group's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The objective of foreign currency risk management is to manage and control foreign currency risk exposure within acceptable parameters while optimizing the return on risk.

Foreign exchange exposure arises from normal banking activities, primarily from the receipt of deposits and the placement of funds. Future open positions in any currency are managed by means of forward foreign exchange contracts. It is the policy of the Group that it will, at all times, adhere to the limits laid down by the Central Bank as referred to below. It is not the Group's intention to take open positions on its own account (proprietary trading) but rather to maintain square or near square positions in all currencies.

The Group does not currently deal, and has no plans to deal, in Foreign Exchange Futures, Foreign Exchange Options or Options on Foreign Exchange Futures.

Any foreign exchange forward swap transaction is either immediately covered or incorporated into the respective loan and deposit book (the banking book).

At the outset the Group's overall currency risk exposures is split into:

- Operational FX positions: The management of these risks is done via Trading books under the responsibility of the Global Markets Division.
- Structural FX positions: ALCO Committee decides on the level of the Structural FX positions to be held against the LBP denominated equity and foreign investment, to ensure proper hedging.

Treasury Department is responsible to monitor the compliance to the regulatory rations set by the regulatory authorities. ALCO Committee is notified by the Finance department of any breach.

The Group is subject to currency risk on financial assets and liabilities that are denominated in currencies other than the Lebanese Pound. Most of these financial assets and liabilities are in US Dollars and Euros. As disclosed in Note 1, the Group's assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are valued at the official exchange rates, whereas there is high volatility and significant variance in the multiple unofficial exchange rates in the parallel markets that have emerged since the start of the economic crisis and the de-facto capital control on foreign currency withdrawals and transfers overseas, and therefore, management is unable to determine what would be a reasonable possible movement in order to provide useful quantitative sensitivity analysis. The impact of the valuation of these assets and liabilities at a different rate will be recognized in the consolidated financial statements once the official exchange rate is changed by the relevant authorities.

The table shown below gives details of the Group's exposure to currency risk:

	December 31, 2023						
	LBP	USD	EUR	GBP	AUD	Other	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
ASSETS							
Cash and deposits at central banks	2,172,124,817	64,184,976,521	4,428,743,553	1,073,136,901	1,435,048,016	203,808,755	73,497,838,563
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	10,862,772	4,427,413,093	458,321,693	531,335,754	466,439,752	416,967,132	6,311,340,196
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	2,745,530	909,933,772	-	-	-	-	912,679,302
Loans to banks	-	1,264,541,566	53,809,404	143,692,648	-	-	1,462,043,618
Loans and advances to customers	278,136,417	2,143,309,356	111,342,394	581,289,676	23,515,936,441	1,365,901,163	27,995,915,447
Loans and advances to related parties	5,485,824	49,041,858	344,303	36,412,941	228,351,825	18	319,636,769
Investment securities	1,427,550,032	4,897,425,840	100,677,732	-	5,151,481,841	549,892,372	12,127,027,817
Customers' liability under acceptances	-	57,474,679	30,521,192	-	-	-	87,995,871
Investments in an associate	14,022,071	-	-	-	-	-	14,022,071
Assets acquired in satisfaction of loans	3,350,432	63,342,389	-	-	-	83,793,509	150,486,330
Non-current assets held for sale	-	570,000,000	-	-	-	-	570,000,000
Property and equipment	7,742,847,126	435,000	-	370,366,930	541,681,140	100,195,082	8,755,525,278
Right of use assets	22,297,132	-	-	10,201,206	30,279,196	-	62,777,534
Goodwill	452,265	-	-	-	86,582,170	-	87,034,435
Other assets	59,042,544	97,140,413	20,443,495	2,776,720	398,210,851	17,026,484	594,640,507
	11,738,916,962	78,665,034,487	5,204,203,766	2,749,212,776	31,854,011,232	2,737,584,515	132,948,963,738
LIABILITIES							
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	16,236,937	3,000,898,498	1,506,728,110	106,481,894	35,379,559	534,756,369	5,200,481,367
Deposits from customers and related parties	3,792,488,587	71,105,629,011	3,782,099,168	934,803,515	26,184,846,414	1,371,431,041	107,171,297,736
Liabilities under acceptance	-	57,480,289	30,624,504	-	-	-	88,104,793
Other borrowings	112,555,199	62,192,380	-	7,958	1,943,300,282	33,096,025	2,151,151,844
Certificates of deposit	-	-	-	6,706,685	-	-	6,706,685
Lease liability	33,682,817	23,018,479	-	11,298,290	36,370,605	-	104,370,191
Other liabilities	477,773,216	560,633,691	27,034,760	66,110,029	133,795,515	30,821,938	1,296,169,149
Provisions	210,968,330	242,881,433	54,074	2,130,995	39,707,547	11,920,967	507,663,346
	4,643,705,086	75,052,733,781	5,346,540,616	1,127,539,366	28,373,399,922	1,982,026,340	116,525,945,111
Currencies to be delivered	-	1,817,517	-	-	-	-	1,817,517
Currencies to be received	-	-	-	-	-	(1,815,568)	(1,815,568)
Discount (net)	-	45,317	-	-	-	1	45,318
	-	1,862,834	-	-	-	(1,815,567)	47,267
Net exchange position	7,095,211,876	3,610,437,872	(142,336,850)	1,621,673,410	3,480,611,310	753,742,608	16,423,065,894

	December 31, 2022						
	LBP	USD	EUR	GBP	AUD	Other	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
ASSETS							
Cash and deposits at central banks	2,141,470,667	6,380,482,740	465,691,244	109,484,368	62,571,905	28,492,240	9,188,193,164
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	51,213,487	254,327,669	87,932,860	47,119,711	43,543,143	22,603,686	506,740,556
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	5,241,615	12,950,154	-	-	-	-	18,191,769
Loans to banks	-	177,581,400	13,944,495	26,375,425	-	-	217,901,320
Loans and advances to customers	669,952,209	564,580,032	9,889,835	43,041,482	2,012,029,114	233,185,831	3,532,678,503
Loans and advances to related parties	6,245,134	2,502,642	202	3,347,973	22,776,420	6,157,174	41,029,545
Investment securities	1,337,457,877	948,616,249	9,836,694	-	508,970,552	56,711,660	2,861,593,032
Customers' liability under acceptances	-	7,151,722	308,349	90,526	-	813,313	8,363,910
Investments in an associate	8,920,613	26,286,195	-	-	-	-	35,206,808
Assets acquired in satisfaction of loans	2,184,593	59,438,872	-	-	-	-	61,623,465
Property and equipment	205,475,324	23,413	1,176	35,379,509	45,297,022	19,536,639	305,713,083
Right of use assets	-	10,617,231	-	1,103,256	4,023,477	449,853	16,193,817
Goodwill	452,265	-	-	-	86,582,170	-	87,034,435
Other assets	208,165,566	6,404,551	262,591	2,187,538	48,563,449	9,238,407	274,822,102
	4,636,779,350	8,450,962,870	587,867,446	268,129,788	2,834,357,252	377,188,803	17,155,285,509
LIABILITIES							
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	231,473,897	281,927,072	145,291,834	12,263,938	5,047,920	41,726,554	717,731,215
Deposits from customers and related parties	3,446,671,003	7,774,462,455	444,609,683	95,148,109	2,077,044,232	175,168,229	14,013,103,711
Liabilities under acceptance	-	7,151,722	308,348	108,450	-	843,053	8,411,573
Other borrowings	268,353,435	9,144,865	-	-	284,925,170	-	562,423,470
Certificates of deposit	-	-	-	610,339	-	-	610,339
Lease liability	-	12,148,829	-	1,188,330	4,669,087	434,630	18,440,876
Other liabilities	226,217,095	67,125,173	8,285,841	3,562,418	35,475,912	5,667,325	346,333,764
Provisions	67,570,029	34,870,728	51,688	275,278	3,738,376	1,264,119	107,770,218
	4,240,285,459	8,186,830,844	598,547,394	113,156,862	2,410,900,697	225,103,910	15,774,825,166
Currencies to be delivered	-	34,056,580	-	-	-	2,689,980	36,746,560
Currencies to be received	-	(247,442)	(16,038,300)	(14,511,760)	(-)	(5,627,144)	(36,424,646)
Discount (net)	-	(4,072)	-	-	-	(1,571)	(5,643)
	-	33,805,066	(16,038,300)	(14,511,760)	(-)	(2,938,735)	316,271
Net exchange position	396,493,891	297,937,092	(26,718,248)	140,461,166	423,456,555	149,146,158	1,380,776,614

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies presented in the tables above include onshore assets and liabilities in foreign currencies that are subject to unofficial capital controls in Lebanon, which is further explained in Note 1. These are held by entities operating in Lebanon and will be realized/settled without recourse to foreign currency cash and/ or foreign bank accounts outside Lebanon ("fresh funds"). Hence these cannot be perceived to have an economic value equivalent to that of offshore foreign currency assets and liabilities and should be viewed and managed separately.

The tables below include segregation of onshore and offshore assets and liabilities in foreign currencies:

	December 31, 2023			
	LBP	Onshore foreign Currencies	Offshore foreign Currencies	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
ASSETS				
Cash and deposits at central banks	2,172,124,817	68,643,742,237	2,681,971,509	73,497,838,563
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	10,862,772	4,682,138,683	1,618,338,741	6,311,340,196
financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	2,745,530	909,933,772	-	912,679,302
Loans to banks	-	-	1,462,043,618	1,462,043,618
Loans and advances to customers	278,136,417	2,034,480,380	25,683,298,650	27,995,915,447
Loans and advances to related parties	5,485,824	49,407,217	264,743,728	319,636,769
Investment securities	1,427,550,032	4,227,365,237	6,472,112,548	12,127,027,817
Customers' liability under acceptances	-	-	87,995,871	87,995,871
Investments in an associate	14,022,071	-	-	14,022,071
Assets acquired in satisfaction of loans	3,350,432	63,342,389	83,793,509	150,486,330
Non-current assets held for sale	-	570,000,000	-	570,000,000
Property and equipment	7,742,847,126	435,000	1,012,243,152	8,755,525,278
Right of use assets	22,297,132	-	40,480,402	62,777,534
Goodwill	452,265	-	86,582,170	87,034,435
Other assets	59,042,544	106,345,711	429,252,252	594,640,507
	11,738,916,962	81,287,190,626	39,922,856,150	132,948,963,738
LIABILITIES				
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	16,236,938	4,833,657,739	350,586,690	5,200,481,367
Customers' and related parties' deposits	3,792,488,587	73,670,994,469	29,707,814,680	107,171,297,736
Liabilities under acceptance	-	-	88,104,793	88,104,793
Other borrowings	112,555,198	95,296,364	1,943,300,282	2,151,151,844
Certificates of deposits	-	-	6,706,685	6,706,685
Lease liability	33,682,817	23,018,479	47,668,895	104,370,191
Other liabilities	477,773,216	513,528,643	304,867,290	1,296,169,149
Provisions	210,968,330	296,695,016	-	507,663,346
	4,643,705,086	79,433,190,710	32,449,049,315	116,525,945,111
Currencies to be delivered	-	-	1,817,517	1,817,517
Currencies to be received	-	-	(1,815,568)	(1,815,568)
Premium (net)	-	-	45,318	45,318
	-	-	47,267	47,267
Net exchange position	7,095,211,876	1,853,999,916	7,473,759,568	16,422,971,360

	December 31, 2022			
	LBP	Onshore foreign Currencies	Offshore foreign Currencies	Total
	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
ASSETS				
Cash and deposits at central banks	2,141,470,667	6,845,891,399	200,831,098	9,188,193,164
Deposits with banks and financial institutions	53,316,436	332,233,033	121,191,087	506,740,556
financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	5,173,837	13,017,932	-	18,191,769
Loans to banks	-	-	217,901,320	217,901,320
Loans and advances to customers	669,952,209	555,254,649	2,307,471,645	3,532,678,503
Loans and advances to related parties	6,245,134	8,706,982	26,077,429	41,029,545
Investment securities	1,337,525,655	890,422,108	633,645,269	2,861,593,032
Customers' liability under acceptances	-	-	8,363,910	8,363,910
Investments in an associate	8,920,613	-	26,286,195	35,206,808
Assets acquired in satisfaction of loans	2,184,593	59,438,872	-	61,623,465
Property and equipment	205,475,324	24,590	100,213,169	305,713,083
Right of use assets	-	10,617,231	5,576,586	16,193,817
Goodwill	452,265	-	86,582,170	87,034,435
Other assets	206,062,616	29,955,965	38,803,521	274,822,102
	4,636,779,349	8,745,562,761	3,772,943,399	17,155,285,509
LIABILITIES				
Deposits from banks and financial institutions	232,055,558	389,403,037	96,272,620	717,731,215
Customers' and related parties' deposits	3,446,671,003	8,115,515,637	2,450,917,071	14,013,103,711
Liabilities under acceptance	-	-	8,411,573	8,411,573
Other borrowings	268,353,435	9,144,864	284,925,171	562,423,470
Certificates of deposit	-	-	610,339	610,339
Lease liability	-	12,148,829	6,292,047	18,440,876
Other liabilities	214,873,541	65,421,368	66,038,855	346,333,764
Provisions	67,570,029	57,595,968	(17,395,779)	107,770,218
	4,229,523,566	8,649,229,703	2,896,071,897	15,774,825,166
Currencies to be delivered	-	-	36,746,560	36,746,560
Currencies to be received	-	-	(36,424,646)	(36,424,646)
Premium (net)	-	-	(5,643)	(5,643)
	-	-	316,271	316,271
Net exchange position	407,255,783	96,333,058	877,187,773	1,380,776,614

D –Other Operational Risks

Litigation Risk

Litigation risk arises from pending or potential legal proceedings against the Group and in the event that legal issues are not properly dealt with by the Group. Litigation that may arise, whether from lawsuits or from arbitration proceedings, may affect the operations of the Group as well as its results.

Since October 17, 2019, and as a result of the de-facto capital control and other measures adopted by Lebanese banks imposing various restrictions of free flow of customers' funds deposited with the banking sector, the Group has been subject to an increased litigation risk. Management is monitoring and assessing the impact of existing and/or potential litigation and claims against the Group in relation to these restrictive measures taking into consideration prevailing laws, regulations and local banking practices. However, due to recent development and the increasing trend in judgments ruled in favour of the plaintiffs and customers during 2022, management considers that this increase in litigations may affect negatively the offshore liquidity of the Group, its foreign assets and its foreign currency mismatch. The amount cannot be determined presently. Although there are uncertainties with respect to outcomes of any litigation in connection with the adoption of the various restrictive measures, management considers that any associated claims are unlikely to have a material adverse impact on the financial position and capital adequacy of the Group.

55. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

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. The fair value measurement is based on the presumption that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

- In the principal market for the asset or liability; or
- In the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability.

The principal or the most advantageous market must be accessible by the Group. The fair value of an asset or a liability is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest.

A fair value measurement of a non-financial asset takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The Group uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure fair value, maximizing the use of relevant observable inputs and minimizing the use of unobservable inputs.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorized within the fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair measurement as a whole:

- Level 1 – Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 – Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable.
- Level 3 – Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For assets and liabilities that are recognized in the financial statements on a recurring basis, the Group determines whether transfers have occurred between Levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorization (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, the Group has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

Financial assets and liabilities originated in Lebanon:

Due to the situation described in Note 1 and the unprecedented levels of uncertainty surrounding the economic and financial crisis that Lebanon, and particularly the banking sector, is witnessing, management is unable to produce reasonable estimation of the fair value of financial assets and liabilities concentrated in Lebanon as the measurement of their fair value is either (i) dependent on prices quoted in a market that is severely inactive and illiquid; or (ii) determined using cash flow valuation models using observable market inputs, comprising of interest rates and yield curves, implied volatilities, and credit spreads that are not reflective of the economic reality and market conditions. In the absence of reliable data, the Group did not disclose the fair value of financial assets and liabilities originated in Lebanon as required by IFRS 13 *Fair Value Measurements*.

Financial assets and liabilities not originated in Lebanon:

The tables below summarize the Group's financial assets and liabilities not originated in Lebanon as at December 31, 2023 and 2022:

		December 31, 2023				
		Carrying	Fair Value			
	Notes	Amount	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
		LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Financial assets measured at:						
Fair value through profit or loss (excluding accrued interest receivable):						
Foreign government treasury bills	7	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
Amortized cost:						
Foreign Government bonds	11	740,480,469	-	740,480,469	-	740,480,469
Certificates of deposit issued by private sector	11	1,334,699,927	-	1,334,699,927	-	1,334,699,927
Bonds issued by financial private sector	11	3,786,789,819	-	3,786,789,819	-	3,786,789,819
		5,861,970,215	-	5,861,970,215	-	5,861,970,215

	Notes	December 31, 2022				
		Carrying Amount	Fair Value			
			Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
		LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000	LBP'000
Financial assets measured at:						
Fair value through profit or loss (excluding accrued interest receivable):						
Foreign government treasury bills	7	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
Amortized cost:						
Foreign Government bonds	11	123,647,810	-	123,647,810	-	123,647,810
Certificates of deposit issued by private sector	11	120,422,462	-	113,558,382	-	113,558,382
Bonds issued by financial private sector	11	386,504,561	-	364,551,102	-	364,551,102
		630,574,833	-	601,757,294	-	601,757,294

Valuation techniques, significant unobservable inputs, and sensitivity of the input to the fair value

The following table gives information about how the fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities, are determined (Level 2 and Level 3 fair values) and significant unobservable inputs used:

Financial Assets	Date of Valuation	Valuation Technique and key Inputs
At fair value through profit or loss:		
Foreign government treasury bills	December 31, 2023 and 2022	Average market price in inactive market
At amortized cost:		
Bonds issued by financial private sector	December 31, 2023 and 2022	Management estimate based on observable input in inactive market
Foreign government bonds	December 31, 2023 and 2022	Average market price in inactive market
Certificates of deposit issued by private sector	December 31, 2023 and 2022	Average market price in inactive market

There have been no transfers between Levels during the period.

56. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Central Bank of Lebanon issued Basic circular 167 on February 2nd, 2024 requesting banks to adopt the requirements of IAS 21 when preparing their financial statements by translating their monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies, as well as the non-monetary assets classified at fair value, using the rate of the electronic platform of BDL. This circular is applicable starting the financial positions of January 31, 2024.

57. APPROVAL OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023 were approved by the Board of Directors in its meeting held on August 14, 2024.