# Risk Management of FX Reserves at National Bank of Georgia

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## **Risk Management Governance**

## Principles Based Approach – Three Lines of Defense

- Front Office First line of defense
- Middle office Second line of defense
- Centralized Risk Management Department and Audit Department Third line of defense

### Risk Governance of FX reserves

- NBG's Board Defines risk appetite, based on SAA results approves
  Benchmarks, FX composition, Tranches and Investment Guidelines
- Reserve Management Committee Reviews periodic Risk and Performance reports, Approves SAA Proposal, New Issuers and Counterparties
- Financial Markets Department
  - Front Office Passive and Active Portfolio Management
  - Middle Office Risk and Compliance Management and Monitoring, Strategic Asset Allocation



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## FX Risk Management

- FX risk is mostly managed through Strategic Asset Allocation process
  - Defines neutral FX currency composition with broad passive deviation limits approved by the Reserve Management Committee and the board
  - Limited ALM approach due to small size of reserves
  - Analyzing FX Liability composition of NBG, Government and Economy
  - FX rebalancing is seldom long term shifts in IR or global developments
  - Most recent rebalancing adding limited exposure to CNY via BISIP.CNY



#### **NBG Currency Composition**





## Interest Rate Risk Management

- IR risk is managed mostly through Strategic Asset Allocation framework conducted annually
- Defined IR risk appetite
  - -0,5% annual CVaR over 1Y horizon 95%(LIQ), 99% (INV) cl.
- Risk/Return modeling using quantitative tools
  - $\circ~$  SAA Workbench provided through WB RAMP
  - SAA Tool develop in-house with WB assistance
- Strategic Benchmarks approved by the board
- Quarterly SAA reports to monitor impact of market volatility
- Active management of portfolio duration
  - Defined duration deviation limits vs benchmarks
  - $\circ~$  Ex-ante tracking error limits
  - $\circ~$  Active use of futures/options for duration hedging



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## Credit Risk Management

- Monitoring credit risk of FX reserves via Credit VaR metric based on CreditMetrics methodology
- Initial review / approval monitoring of issuers and counterparties
- Limiting credit exposure
  - Limits exposure to bonds below AA- rating
  - Max concertation in a single issuer 5% of FX reserves
  - Spread Duration and TE deviation limits vs benchmarks
- Verifying credit ratings using in-house methodology:
  - Relies on metrics like Total Assets, ROA, NPL/Loans, Tier 1 Cap, etc.
  - Qualitative metrics like Competition, Management, Economy, etc
  - Adjustment of estimated credit ratings through expert opinion
- Monitoring of credit ratings and market data
  - $\circ~$  Live alerts for Credit Rating changes
  - Live alerts of significant changes in stock prices, spreads, CDS, Bloomberg DRSK score



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## Liquidity Risk Management

- Division of FX reserves into tranches
  - Working capital tranche 1 month of cash outflows (Cash, MM, Bills, Short term Treasury notes, FixBIS)
  - Liquidity Tranche size defined by projects 12 month outflows (Exposure to less liquid instruments up to 25%)
  - Investment Tranche size defined (Exposure to less liquid instruments up to 50%)
- Limit investments into less liquid instruments:
  - Minimum issue size requirement \$500M
  - $\circ~$  Max concertation in a single issue 5% of an issue
- Proactive forecast of liquidity needs and accumulation of cash in Working capital tranche when market turbulence is expected

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- Swap/Repo facilities in place in the case of liquidity crisis
- Bloomberg Liquidity Score not reliable during liquidity crisis



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# Thank you!



