Risk Management of FX Reserves at National Bank of Georgia

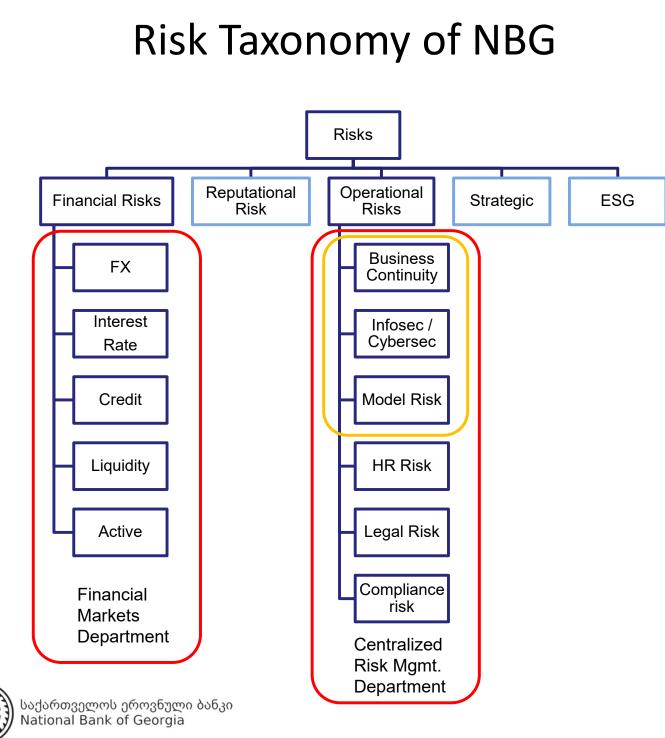
Alexander Khazaradze Head of Risk Management and Control Division

Asian Regional Forum on Investment Management of FX Reserves, ADB Singapore, October, 2022



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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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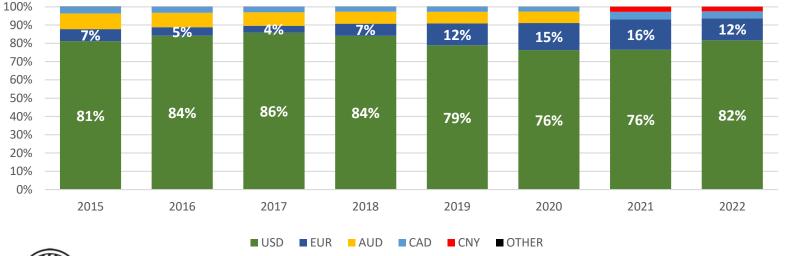
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FX Risk Management

- 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!



