



Press Release

September 30, 2018

The open market operations committee at the Central Bank of Jordan decided to raise the interest rates on all monetary policy instruments by 25 bps, effective Monday 1/10/2018. The decision comes in light of the recent developments of the interest rates in the regional and international markets as well as the CBJ goal to sustain the financial and monetary stability, in addition to the competitiveness of the financial instruments denominated in Jordanian dinar.

In consistent with its underlying objective to sustain economic activities, the committee decided to maintain the interest rates on CBJ's refinancing program, that targets small and medium size projects, unchanged at 1.75% for projects located in Amman governorate and 1.00% for projects located in otherwise governorates. The committee, at the same time, decided to expand the coverage of the CBJ's refinancing program to target three more sectors; health sector, transportation sector (only transportation companies), and education sector (only vocational and practical training). This is in addition to the previously targeted

sectors _ industry, tourism, agriculture, renewable energy, information technology, and engineering consultancy.

The decision to expand the coverage of the CBJ refinancing program seeks to contribute to the national plans to qualify domestic human resources and to foster its competitiveness in domestic and foreign labor markets. The decision also supports the national plans to improve the quality of health and transportation services, which may lead to an improvement of the living standards for Jordanian citizens.

It is worth mentioning that the CBJ's refinancing program has provided funds for 839 projects in a total amount of JD 565 million, the total size of the program is JD 1.1 billion.

The CBJ will continue to monitor local, regional and global economic developments and stand ready to act proactively to support monetary and financial stability.