

“Press Release”

Key Developments in the Balance of Payments of the State of Kuwait for the Year 2022

The Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) published today the preliminary data of the State of Kuwait’s Balance of Payments (BOP) for 2022, and the revised data of 2021. The preliminary data of the Balance of Payments revealed a surplus during 2022 of KD 19,329.3 million in the Current Account (that sums up receipts and payments on transactions between the domestic economy and other economies in terms of goods, services and income) against a surplus of KD 10,537.0 million during the previous year, i.e. a rise by KD 8,792.3 million or 83.4%. This upturn is mainly attributable to the noticeable improvement in the Balance on Goods, as the preliminary data indicated a rise in the surplus of the Balance on Goods by KD 9,805.7 million or 80.2% to reach KD 22,034.2 million during 2022, against KD 12,228.5 million during the previous year. This increase is driven mainly by the rise in the merchandise exports by KD 10,085.7 million or 48.9% compared with the previous year, as a result of the improvement in the performance of the global economy for the second consecutive year, after Covid-19 pandemic.

The Services Account (net value of services transactions between residents and non-residents that include transportation, travel, communications, construction, other services as well as government services and goods) recorded a deficit of KD 5,187.0 million during 2022, against a deficit of KD 3,735.2 million during the previous year, i.e. an increase by KD 1,451.8 million or 38.9%. This rise in deficit was mainly attributed to the increase in the outflows of Travel Item during 2022.

Preliminary data of the Financial Account (recording transfers of financial assets and liabilities between residents and non-residents) indicate net capital outflows (growth in residents' net investments abroad) of KD 19,989.0 million during 2022, against net capital outflows of KD 11,025.6 million during the previous year.

As a result, the overall position of Kuwait's BOP recorded a surplus of KD 1,126.7 million during 2022 against a deficit of KD 970.7 million during the previous year.

Summary of the Balance of Payments of the State of Kuwait
(KD Million)

Item	2021*	2022**
Current Account, of which:	10,537.0	19,329.3
- Balance on Goods	(12,228.5)	(22,034.2)
Capital Account	458.0	163.4
Financial Account	-11,025.6	-19,989.0
Overall Balance	-970.7	1,126.7

Source: Central Bank of Kuwait.

* Revised data.

* Provisional data.

Negative numbers of Capital Account data indicate net capital outflows, while positive numbers indicate the opposite.

Negative numbers of Financial Account data indicate capital outflows i.e. an increase in external assets or a decrease in foreign liabilities. Positive numbers indicate the opposite.

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