

BANK OF THE BAHAMAS LIMITED
Selected Explanatory Notes to the Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

For the period ended March 31, 2021
(Expressed in Bahamian Dollars)

1. General Information

Bank of The Bahamas Limited (the “Bank”) is incorporated under the laws of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas and is licensed by The Central Bank of the Bahamas to conduct banking business in The Bahamas under the provisions of the Banks and Trust Companies Regulations Act 2000. The Bank is also licensed as an authorized dealer pursuant to the Exchange Control Regulations Act and is the holder of a broker dealer license from the Securities Commission.

The Bank’s shares are publicly traded and listed on The Bahamas International Securities Exchange. As at March 31, 2021, The Government of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas (the “Government”) and The National Insurance Board (“NIB”) owned approximately 82.6% of the issued common shares. The remaining common shares are owned by approximately 3,000 Bahamian shareholders.

The Bank’s head office is located at Claughton House, corner of Shirley Street and Charlotte Street, Nassau, Bahamas. The registered office is located at Sassoon House, corner of Shirley Street and Victoria Avenue, Nassau, Bahamas.

As at March 31, 2021, the Bank has twelve branches: four in New Providence, one in Grand Bahama, two in Andros, one in San Salvador, one in Inagua, one in Cat Island, one in Eleuthera and one in Bimini.

The COVID-19 pandemic which started during the last quarter of fiscal year 2020 has affected the Bank’s operations. The restrictions imposed by Government on certain businesses, national events and activities, the periods of community lockdown and curfew, the significant increase in unemployment and the historic decline in tourism severely reduced the economic activities of the Bank, the Bank’s customers, the industry and the country, as a whole, and required the Bank to continuously adjust to the diverse challenges posed by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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2. Significant Accounting Policies

The significant accounting policies and methods of computation followed in the preparation of these interim consolidated financial statements are the same as those followed in the preparation of the annual consolidated financial statements of the Bank for the year ended June 30, 2020. These consolidated interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34 Interim Financial Reporting.

The annual consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”). The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the Bank’s accounting policies.

3. Dividends

Dividends to the Bank’s shareholders are recognized as a liability in the period in which they are declared by the Board of Directors and approved by the Bank’s Regulator. The Bank paid no dividends to the shareholders during the period.

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4. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	March 31, 2021	June 30, 2020
Cash	\$ 21,939,587	\$ 19,339,409
Deposits with the Central Bank- non-interest bearing	75,009,202	92,466,235
Cash and account with the Central Bank	96,948,789	111,805,644
Cash equivalents - Treasury Bills	94,873,306	44,935,963
Due from Banks	67,439,870	49,370,314
Cash and due from Banks	259,261,965	206,111,921
Less: Mandatory reserve deposits with the Central Bank	29,080,460	25,377,090
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$ 230,181,505	\$ 180,734,831

Money market placements included in Due from banks amount to \$2.4 million (June 30, 2020: \$2.4 million), net of \$Nil allowance for impairment losses (June 30, 2020: \$0.03 million).

As at March 31, 2021 the Bank's statutory reserve deposits with The Central Bank of The Bahamas were above Central Bank's regulatory requirement.

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5. Loans and advances to customers, net

	March 31, 2021	June 30, 2020
Mortgage residential loans	\$ 200,094,380	\$ 212,613,763
Mortgage commercial loans	13,110,972	12,129,575
Commercial loans	67,248,068	70,556,396
Consumer loans	118,912,006	100,856,108
Government	44,321,770	37,286,348
Credit cards	1,374,384	1,563,211
Business overdrafts	476,933	554,730
Personal overdrafts	160,533	147,821
	<u>445,699,046</u>	<u>435,707,952</u>
Less: Provision for loan losses		
Provision at beginning of year	\$ 68,262,712	\$ 61,505,934
Amount written-off/charged off	(11,829,604)	(8,591,165)
Net provision expense	<u>7,476,462</u>	<u>15,347,943</u>
Provision at end of year	63,909,570	68,262,712
Accrued interest receivable	<u>2,585,970</u>	<u>3,005,208</u>
Loans and advances to customers, net	<u>\$ 384,375,446</u>	<u>\$ 370,450,448</u>
Provisions as a percentage of the net loan portfolio	16.63%	18.43%
Non-accrual loans as a percentage of the net loan portfolio	19.75%	22.65%

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted the Bank's economic outlook, which has a high degree of uncertainty given the evolving environment. The provision for loan losses reflects the Bank's economic outlook as at March 31, 2021. Subsequent changes to these forecasts and related estimates will be reflected in the provision for loan losses in future periods.

The Bank has established relief programs to help borrowers manage through challenges of COVID-19 primarily through payment deferrals. During the last quarter of the fiscal year 2020, the Bank temporarily extended the credit terms by up to 90 days and subsequently further extended up to March 31, 2021 for specific customers with liquidity constraints arising as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In cases where borrowers have opted to participate in payment deferral programs as a result of COVID-19, deferral of payments is not considered past due and such loans are not aged further during the deferral period.

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6. Notes Receivable and Special Retained Earnings

On August 31, 2017, Bahamas Resolve Limited (“Resolve”), a special purpose vehicle owned and controlled by the Government, purchased another portfolio of loans from the Bank at a price equivalent to the gross book value of those loans before provisions. This transaction consisted of three tranches and the results are as follows:

- Non-performing loans with a total net book value of approximately \$50.6 million was derecognized. Unsecured promissory note of \$167.7 million was received and \$117.1 million was recognized directly in equity as Special Retained Earnings.
- The Bank has transferred all of its rights and obligations relating to the non-performing loans to Resolve without recourse and will have no rights to future cash flows from the non-performing loans.
- The Bank received an irrevocable Letter of Support from the Government.
- The promissory note bears fixed interest at 3.5%, payable semi-annually on February 28 and August 31, commencing in August 2018. Of the \$2.9 million accrued interest receivable due on February 28, partial payment of \$0.7 million was collected as at March 31, 2021 with the remaining balance on scheduled payments until May 2021. Accrued interest receivable as at March 31, 2021 amounted to \$2.7 million (June 30, 2020: \$2.0 million).
- Provision for impairment losses amounted to \$4.9 million as at March 31, 2021 (June 30, 2020: \$4.9 million).

7. Regulatory Capital

Regulatory capital consists of Tier 1 and Tier 2 capital. Total Tier 1 capital comprises of Common Equity Tier 1. CET1 ratio must be at least 9.6% of the total Risk Weighted Assets. The Bank is in compliance with this capital requirement at 36.1% as at March 31, 2021 (June 30, 2020: 37.5%).

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8. Commitments and Contingencies

Commitments

The commitment for loans and advances at March 31, 2021 was \$10.7 million (June 30, 2020: \$5.7 million).

The commitment for capital expenditures at March 31, 2021 was \$1.0 million (June 30, 2020: \$2.1 million).

Contingencies and Provision

The Bank operates in a regulatory and legal environment that, by nature, has a heightened element of litigation risk inherent in its operations. As a result, the Bank is involved in various litigation proceedings in the ordinary course of its business. The Bank has internal and external legal counsel, and formal controls and policies for managing legal claims. With the benefit of professional legal advice, the Bank provides and/or discloses amounts in accordance with its accounting policies.

As at the period end, the Bank had several ongoing legal claims. Various legal proceedings are pending that challenge certain actions of the Bank. Management considers that adequate provision has been made in these financial statements for any loss that might ultimately be determined.