

Bond Market Insight

MoF borrowed more than UAH7bn

Comment on government bond placement

At yesterday's auction, the Ministry of Finance borrowed about UAH7.4bn, refinancing current debt repayments. Most of the proceeds came from FX-denominated instruments, which enabled the MoF to receive nearly half of FX-denominated debt repayments scheduled for this month.

Demand for local-currency instruments was UAH2.4bn, the largest amount for 2Q18. However, the Ministry decided to satisfy only UAH1.3bn of it; budget proceeds from local-currency instruments were UAH1.25bn. At the same time, only one USD-denominated security offered received US\$240m of demand, just US\$31m less than at the end of May. Accepting 27 out of 30 received bids, the MoF sold US\$229.35m of bills for US\$234m of budget proceeds, or more than UAH6bn at the current exchange rate.

In line with its current policy for accepting demand for local-currency instruments, the Ministry kept the cut-off rate for two-month bills at 17.44%, and decreased the rate for six-month instrument by 25bp to 17.25%, the level seen at the end of May. At the same time, the MoF accepted only a fifth of the demand for nine-month bills, increasing the cut-off rate by 5bp to 17.30%. For the 12-month instrument, the cut-off rate was increased by 30bp to 17.30%, and two thirds of demand was accepted.

Table 1. Details of domestic government bonds placed at the auction (UAHbn)

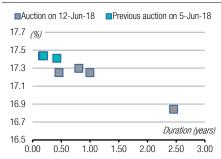
ISIN	Coupon rate (%)	Pay- ment freq ¹	Maturity	Qty of bonds sold	Price (UAH)	Pro- ceeds ² (UAHm)	Volume ² (UAHm)	YTM ³ (%)	Out- standing (m) ⁴
UA4000200513	0.00	@Mty	15-Aug-18	500,000	970.78	485.39	500.00	17.44	2,118.94
UA4000200604	0.00	@Mty	28-Nov-18	500,000	926.44	463.22	500.00	17.25	4,253.27
UA4000201370	0.00	@Mty	3-Apr-19	75,850	877.71	66.57	75.85	17.30	75.85
UA4000201388	0.00	@Mty	12-Jun-19	105,000	853.22	89.59	105.00	17.25	105.00
UA4000194377	16.75	SA	2-Jun-21	141,916	1,017.09	144.34	141.92	16.84	2,951.92
Total UAH				1,322,766		1,249.11	1,322.77		9,504.98
UA4000201396	5.62	SA	15-Jan-20	229,035	1,022.81	6,112.75	5,976.44	5.70	5,976.44
Total USD				229,035		6,112.75	5,976.44		5,976.44

Note: [1] payment frequency abbreviations: M - monthly, Qtly - quarterly, SA - semi-annually, @Mty - at maturity date; [2] proceeds and volumes for the USD-denominated bonds are calculated based on the previous day's exchange rate 26.09/USD, 30.47/EUR; [3] yields on coupon-bearing bonds are effective yields to maturity. Sources: Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, Bloomberg, ICU.

The Ministry rejected only one bid and kept cut-off rate for the three-year note at 16.15%, the same level as was seen in recent months.

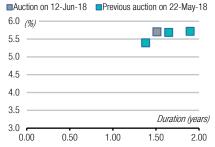
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UAH-denominated domestic gov't bonds: yield curve in past two auctions



Source: Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, ICU.

USD-denominated domestic gov't bonds: yield curve in past two auctions



Source: Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, ICU.



For FX-denominated instruments, the MoF changed the cut-off rate insufficiently. At the end of May, the MoF sold paper with maturity in February 2020 at 5.60% cut-off rate, but yesterday the cut-off rate was set at 5.62% for bills maturing in January 2020. Demand came with rates up to 5.70%, but this demand was above the acceptable level for the MoF.

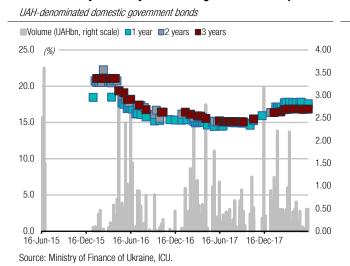
So, the MoF kept policy on track, keeping rates at the same level as before: above 17% for maturities up to one year, and slightly above 16% for longer maturities. This allowed the Ministry to keep the cost of budget financing steady by offering FX-denominated instruments to lower the cost of borrowing currently.

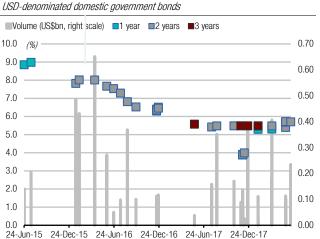
Next week, we could see slight movements of rates for short-term instruments by 25-30bp, while for two-year bills denominated in FX, the cut-off rate could be 5.65%, as it was in May, with possible movements of a few basis points.



Appendix: Yields-to-maturity, repayments

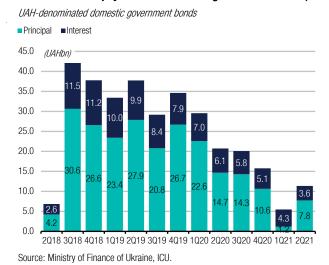
Chart 1. Three-year history of domestic government bond placements at primary market: proceeds (in billions) and yields-to-maturity (%)





Source: Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, ICU.

Chart 2. Future repayments on domestic government bonds (in billions of currency)



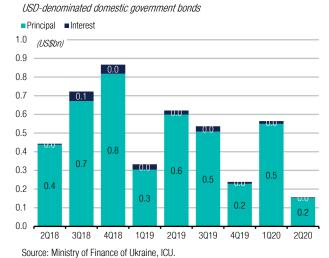
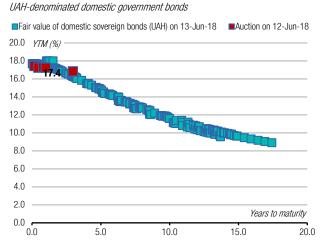
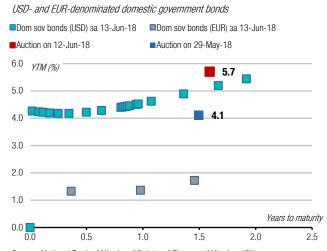


Chart 3. Fair value of domestic government bonds as calculated by NBU versus placements via primary market auctions







Source: National Bank of Ukraine, Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, ICU.



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