

Money Market Report for the week ending 17 April 2020

ECB Monetary Operations

On 9 April 2020, the European Central Bank (ECB) announced a 7-day Main Refinancing Operation (MRO). The operation was conducted on 14 April 2020, and attracted bids from euro area eligible counterparties of €0.22 billion, €0.09 billion less than the bid amount of the previous week. The amount was allotted in full at a fixed rate equivalent to the prevailing MRO rate of 0.00%, in accordance with current ECB policy.

On 14 April 2020, the ECB conducted the Additional Longer-term Refinancing Operation maturing on the 24 June 2020, which attracted bids from euro area eligible counterparties of €4.64 billion. This operation was carried out through a fixed rate tender procedure with full allotment, with an interest rate that is equal to the average deposit facility rate during the life of the operation.

On 15 April 2020, the ECB conducted the 84-day US dollar funding operation through collateralised lending in conjunction with the US Federal Reserve. This operation attracted bids of \$2.26 billion, which was allotted in full at a fixed rate of 0.33%.

On a daily basis, the ECB conducted the 7-day US dollar funding operations through collateralised lending in conjunction with the US Federal Reserve. The four operations attracted bids of a total of \$5.94 billion, at the rates of 0.30% and 0.31%.

Domestic Treasury Bill Market

In the domestic primary market for Treasury bills, the Treasury invited tenders for 91-day and 182-day bills for settlement value 16 April 2020, maturing on 16 July 2020 and 15 October 2020, respectively. Bids of €10.00 million were submitted for the 91-day bills, with the Treasury accepting all bids, while bids of €70.00 million were submitted for the 182-day bills, with the Treasury accepting €50.00 million. Since €20.00 million worth of bills matured during the week, the outstanding balance of Treasury bills increased by €40.00 million, standing at €599.00 million.

The yield from the 91-day bill auction was -0.240%, an increase of 8.7 basis points from bids with a similar tenor issued on 9 April 2020, representing a bid price of €100.0607 per €100 nominal. The yield from the 182-day bill auction was -0.188%, an increase of 12.6 basis points from bids with a similar tenor issued on 2 April 2020, representing a bid price of €100.0951 per €100 nominal.

During the week under review, there was no trading on the Malta Stock Exchange.

This week the Treasury will invite tenders for 91-day bills and 364-day bills maturing on 23 July 2020 and 22 April 2021, respectively.