



OXFORD ANALYTICA

JORDAN

MONETARY TRANSPARENCY

Country Report 2006

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JORDAN



COMPLIANCE RATINGS

<i>Monetary transparency</i>	2006	2005	2004	2003
Clarity of roles	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Open decision process	●●●	●●●	●●	●●
Availability of information	●●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Accountability	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Score	3.25	3.00	2.75	2.75

OUTLOOK & COMMENTARY

The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) continued its efforts to improve monetary policy transparency during 2006 through improved communication with the public, further adoption of the IMF's Special Data Dissemination Standards (SDDS), and increased interagency dialogue in the area of statistics.

The CBJ has improved its banking regulation with the introduction of minimum capital requirements for commercial banks and its drafting of the Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) law and guidelines.

In the coming year it is likely to see full implementation of SDDS and possibly a new Financial Sector Assessment Programme, together with the results of a piloted public communications strategy.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3.25 Enacted

In 2006 Jordan has continued to improve monetary policy transparency, especially in the areas of quantity, timeliness and comprehensiveness of the information published by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ), and the way in which this is communicated to stakeholders.

As in 2005, Jordan continues to produce and disseminate data and information in accordance with the IMF General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) and the CBJ is close to meeting the requirements of the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS). This was originally expected to happen by the end of 2006, but it now appears that monetary statistics will conform to SDDS requirements by mid-2007. When SDDS requirements are finally met, it will reduce the lag on monetary data from one month to two weeks. The IMF has voiced confidence in SDDS requirements being met next year in its recent Article IV Consultation.

There already exists good communication between the CBJ and stakeholders through frequent lectures, interviews, public statements and speeches. However, efforts to outline the direction of CBJ policy, as well as *formalised* requirements for public scrutiny of rationale, quantitative targets, instruments or underlying assumptions used for setting monetary policy objectives, remain absent. As part of the ongoing process to improve its communication with the public, the CBJ re-launched its website in 2006 clearly detailing its vision, mission and core values. Furthermore, the CBJ is internally piloting a communications strategy, including the development of a 'knowledge map'. To increase its own commentary on monetary policy, the CBJ started to publish a monthly report in 2006, in addition to the *Monthly Statistics Bulletin*.

Previous criticism of the poor communications and coordination between the central bank, the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and the Department of Statistics led to the setting-up of an interagency committee, and in 2006 regular meetings began twice a month rather than on an *ad hoc* basis. However, consistency checks between government finance statistics and monetary statistics are still not conducted

The CBJ has been active in bank regulation following its drafting of the Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) legislation in 2006 (to be presented to parliament in December) and the requirement, as of 2007, for commercial banks to maintain a minimum capital requirement of 40 million Jordanian dinars. By all accounts, the Electronic Data Distribution (EDD) system continues function well.

The overall score for Jordan has increased from 3.00 in 2005 to 3.25 in 2006.

1. CLARITY OF ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND OBJECTIVES OF CENTRAL BANKS

●●● Enacted

The objectives and institutional framework of monetary policy

Central bank objectives and responsibilities

The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) remains the central institution for monetary policy and management in Jordan. The CBJ was established in 1964 by Special Decree and is subject to the Jordanian Central Bank Law No. 23 of 1971.¹ This law states that the CBJ is “the government bank and its financial agent”. The CBJ is the principal monetary authority and is legally independent. Its stipulated objectives are the maintenance of price stability, the maintenance of the fixed exchange rate with the US dollar, and the promotion of economic growth in accordance with general government economic policy.²

One of the central bank’s core objectives is to preserve monetary stability. This entails a low inflation rate, a stable exchange rate, accommodating demands on reserves and an appropriate interest rate structure. The CBJ has continued to rely on open market operations to provide the market with the appropriate level of liquidity and the IMF has recommended that the CBJ should continue to remove excess liquidity through the issuances of Certificates of Deposits.³ All measures and policies of the CBJ are designed to be consistent with the ultimate objective of monetary policy, which is the fixed Jordanian dinar exchange rate. The CBJ and the government are committed to enhancing efficiency in data dissemination and plan to meet the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) by mid-2007.⁴ The CBJ continues to promote the adoption of international accounting standards by commercial banks in order to increase the competitiveness of the banking system.⁵ The recent IMF Article IV Consultation concluded that bank regulation and supervision had strengthened, with the implementation of many of the recommendations of the 2003 Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP) -- notably the prompt corrective action framework and corporate governance/risk management guidelines -- and ratification of Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) legislation.⁶ The IMF recommended that the FSAP be updated in late 2007, especially looking into issues around Basle II implementation, Social Security Corporation reforms and stress testing for banks.⁷

Operational autonomy

The CBJ continues to consolidate its independence and reputation for effective monetary management in cooperation with the IMF and in line with King Abdullah's commitment to increase cabinet and civil service efficiency and to improve overall economic management in Jordan.⁸ However, the IMF has voiced concerns that that CBJ’s objective to promote economic growth in accordance with government policy carries the potential for central interference and that coordination between the CBJ and the government should continue on issues such as debt issuance and CBJ balance sheet weaknesses.⁹

Nonetheless, in accordance with the Central Bank Law, exchange rate policy remains the prerogative of the cabinet, which continues to set the exchange rate for the Jordanian dinar against the gold price or IMF Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) after consultation with the CBJ.¹⁰ In effect, the dinar has been pegged to the US dollar since 1995, although this has not led to severe overvaluation problems.

The King appoints the governor of the central bank. The Central Bank Law stipulates that the monetary board of the CBJ is accountable for the CBJ's operations and for the conduct of monetary policy. Legislation related to the central bank does not specify whether the government has the authority to override monetary policy decisions. In practice the Ministry of Finance (MoF) cannot overrule CBJ monetary policy decisions.¹¹

Institutional relationship between monetary and fiscal operations

Lending to government

In July 2001, in addition to the release of a new public debt law, a 'memorandum of understanding' was signed between the CBJ and the MoF to clarify the institutional relationship between monetary and fiscal operations. These measures effectively supersede the provision of the 1971 Central Bank Law, which allowed the CBJ to grant the government interest-free loans to cover temporary revenue shortfalls, provided that such loans did not exceed 20% of budgeted local revenues.¹²

In 2002, the CBJ and MoF received technical assistance to improve fiscal and monetary separation in everyday operations. This led to the formation of an *ad hoc* internal committee in 2004 to coordinate monetary and fiscal transparency, but not technical matters. Only in 2007 is the committee expected to produce a memorandum to define its clear remit and purpose. There are no regular meetings of the committee and has in fact only met twice since being set up.¹³ The government has committed to look at options to reduce debt to the CBJ gradually.¹⁴

Central bank involvement in the rest of the economy

The CBJ is represented on the boards of the Jordan Loan Guarantee Corporation, the Jordan Mortgage Refinance Corporation, the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company, and the Deposit Insurance Corporation. The governor is also a member of the Economic Consultative Council, though his participation in this is not specific to monetary issues.¹⁵ The CBJ is also involved in the enhancement of the investment climate through monetary stability, measures to stimulate the capital market, and measures to encourage companies to issue bonds.

Central bank profit allocation

Provisions covering profits and losses by the CBJ remain unchanged. The CBJ retains 20% of any net profits, with the remainder being paid to the government after any deductions necessary to repay government debts to the central bank.¹⁶

Agency roles performed by the central bank on behalf of the government

The CBJ acts as a banker and fiscal agent to the government and public institutions. It thus fulfils the usual roles of a central bank, from managing the supply of banknotes and coins to influencing the quantity, quality and cost of credit, and maintaining the national gold and foreign exchange reserves. It maintains the revenue and expenditure accounts of government and public institutions, makes transfers, opens letters of credit, manages and implements loan and trade agreements, and extends credit to the treasury under certain conditions.

As the banker and fiscal agent of the government, the CBJ is restricted to making relevant payments of external debt service on behalf of the MoF. The management of external public debt is the sole responsibility of the MoF.¹⁷

2. OPEN PROCESS FOR FORMULATING AND REPORTING MONETARY POLICY DECISIONS



The framework, instruments, and targets of monetary policy

Framework and monetary targets

The CBJ does not declare a specific monetary policy framework or targets but has the ultimate objective of maintaining the fixed exchange rate regime. Other objectives are accommodating demand on reserves and controlling the interest rate through the operational tool of Certificates of Deposit (CDs).¹⁸ It has proved its commitment to monetary stability over recent years by maintaining price and exchange rate stability. The IMF confirmed this in 2006, stating that “monetary policy was geared towards keeping interest rates in line with global rates” and that the CBJ had conducted a prudent monetary policy.¹⁹ In the current climate of regional political and economic uncertainty, Jordan is unlikely to attempt to float its currency in the near term.

Monetary instruments

The CBJ remains conservative in its interest rate policy, setting rates to track the US Federal Reserve rate with a steady premium. Current and forecast developments in international interest rates and domestic conditions are also taken into consideration. The CBJ’s overnight deposit rate is the base rate for interbank rates. It also publishes separate repo and discount rates.²⁰ The most important monetary instruments are open market operations through CDs. Monetary policy instruments are announced in press releases and in the *Monthly Statistics Bulletin*, and are discussed in lectures and interviews given by the CBJ.

The CBJ describes as part of its general role in Jordan’s economic development the creation of monetary and financial institutions which are capable of mobilising savings for development projects as part of its general role in Jordan’s economic development.

The monetary policy-making body

Monetary board

The Board of the CBJ is the central bank’s monetary policy-making body, as well as the body responsible for managing the CBJ’s general affairs. The governor is responsible for the implementation of the CBJ’s policies and represents the CBJ in all its relations with other parties.²¹ The board’s official responsibilities include: the determination of overall CBJ policies; setting up central bank regulations; the appointment of consultants for fixed terms and on conditions decided by the board; and approval of the annual balance sheets and profit/loss reports for the CBJ. The board receives a monthly internal report on the CBJ’s monetary position and operations.²²

The composition of the board and the terms of appointment of its members are specified by law. It is made up of the governor, two deputy governors, and five additional members. The cabinet appoints the governor and deputy governors for a five-year term, which can be renewed by royal approval. The cabinet also appoints members for a three-year term, which can be renewed. Licensed banks and specialised credit institutions are represented by one member each.²³ The criteria for appointment to the board, as laid out in the Central Bank Law, is ‘experience in

financial and economic affairs...[and the ability] to contribute to the realisation of the objectives of the Central Bank'.²⁴

The cabinet sets the salary and benefits of the governor and deputy governors. Criteria for their removal from office, together with the removal of members of the board, are specified in the Central Bank Law and require a writ from the prime minister.²⁵

Advance meeting schedule

Meetings of the board are called by the governor and must be held at least once a month.²⁶

Public statements on monetary policy

Periodic publications

Increased disclosure of Jordan's Article IV Consultations with the IMF, and its letters of intent and memorandums of economic and financial policy submitted to the IMF, have boosted the transparency of monetary policy in recent years. Domestically, the governor communicates monetary policy through mandatory appearances before a parliamentary financial committee, in public statements and speeches, and via the CBJ's press releases and publications, such as its *Monthly Statistics Bulletin*. On the 40th anniversary of the CBJ, a compendium of data from 1964 – 2004 was issued. The data are available upon request from the CBJ either electronically or in hard copy.

Public hearings

The governor is legally required to ensure that the CBJ communicates its policies and measures to the public, although no schedule is stipulated for this. Plans to introduce advance release calendars have been postponed and these are now planned to be ready for 2008. A form of advance release is submitted to the IMF, but some CBJ departments are not yet able to fulfil commitments to advance release.²⁷

The CBJ includes a questionnaire attached to the *Monthly Statistics Bulletin* and its website for public comments.²⁸ While this was originally intended for users of the *Monthly Statistics Bulletin*, by the end of 2006 a new general questionnaire will be in place for stakeholders.²⁹ There is good communication between the CBJ and the general public, with frequent lectures, interviews, public statements and speeches, and public relations activities by the CBJ outlining the direction of CBJ policy.³⁰ However, *formalised* requirements for public scrutiny of policy rationale, quantitative targets, instruments or underlying assumptions used for setting monetary policy objectives are still lacking. Monetary policy instruments are announced in press releases and in the *Monthly Statistics Bulletin*, and are discussed by the CBJ in lectures and interviews. Major changes in the methodology for monetary data gathering are reported in the CBJ's publications after implementation.³¹ There is no formal requirement for public consultations on substantive technical changes to the structure of monetary regulations.

Regulations on data reporting by financial institutions to the central bank

Financial institutions are required by law to provide data on their operations to the CBJ, when and as stipulated by the CBJ.³² Such institutions are required to publish their financial statements and audit reports in two national daily newspapers within six months of the end of the fiscal year. A new exchange commission law has now strengthened the capacity of the Jordan Securities Commission to enforce reporting requirements. Standards of reporting by banks are improving.

In an effort to enhance banking supervision, an 'Early Warning System' was implemented in 2003 and a comprehensive framework for prompt corrective measures for unsound banking practices was issued.³³ The CBJ also issued a commentary report to banks on instructions regarding corporate governance.³⁴ In addition, the central bank is responsible for supervising licensed banks to ensure financial soundness and to protect the rights of depositors and shareholders. This is in accordance with the Banks Law of 2000, the earlier Basel Accord, and general international banking supervision standards.³⁵

The CBJ is currently developing an Electronic Data Distribution (EDD) system to improve the comprehensiveness and timeliness of information on commercial banks; the system will cover all banks at every level. This system aims to achieve, *inter alia*, parallel implementation of electronic cheque clearing and electronic data distribution between banks. It should also improve data reporting by financial institutions to the central bank and general supervision of the banking system.³⁶

There have been a number of regulations affecting banks in recent years. From 2004, the Jordan Securities Commission required all listed companies to file quarterly reports: since all the local banks are listed they are covered by this requirement. In 2006, the CBJ said that, in line with international standards on bank licensing, it will impose a minimum capital requirement of 40 million Jordanian dinars for commercial banks from 2007.³⁷ The CBJ is helping banks to implement the rules of Basel I and II through seminars and advise-giving.³⁸

Commentators noted that commercial banks respond well to signals from the CBJ, indicating good communication by the CBJ.³⁹

3. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION ON MONETARY POLICY



Compliance in progress

Release of central bank data

Jordan continues to produce and disseminate data and information in accordance with the IMF General Data Dissemination System (GDDS), and the CBJ is close to meeting the requirements of the IMF Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS); it is expected that monetary statistics will conform to SDDS requirements by mid-2007.⁴⁰ This will reduce the likely lag of aggregate data from one month to two weeks.⁴¹ As of 2004, balance of payments statistics that comply with the Fifth Edition of the Balance of Payments Manual (BPM5) and the international reserve template have been available on the CBJ website. As noted by the IMF, there is still room for further improvement in the balance of payments statistics relating to regular surveys in the transportation and investment areas; improvements are expected in 2007.⁴² The CBJ has established a balance of payments compilation division within the Research Department. This, together with the allocation of additional resources, has aided the programme to improve balance of payments statistics, including a detailed action plan to address weaknesses in all data quality dimensions.⁴³

The CBJ is independent in determining its data compilation methodology and dissemination practices, but it coordinates with the Department of Statistics and the MoF on data issues. Data submitted by banks and other financial institutions are confidential and are managed in accordance with IMF guidelines. Monetary data for the CBJ and commercial banks are reported and published on a monthly basis. The CBJ's financial statements are compiled on an accrual basis.⁴⁴

Independent data users consider that the quality of the CBJ's data and publications continued to improve during 2006. A number of plans for improving data timeliness, coverage and quality are currently underway. However, while monetary and banking data in the CBJ's *Monthly Statistics Bulletin* are usually up to date, in some areas such as price indices, the *Bulletin* shows only preliminary data for the eighteen months up to the *Bulletin*'s reference date. The *Monthly Statistics Bulletin* is also sometimes delayed.⁴⁵ The development of the Electronic Data Distribution (EDD) system should also facilitate better classification of the analytical accounts and strengthen the methodological soundness of monetary data.⁴⁶

Communications between the central bank, the MoF, and the Department of Statistics have been criticised. Government is aiming to improve this: the CBJ now meets with the Department of Statistics at least twice a month.⁴⁷ Consistency checks between government finance statistics and monetary statistics are not conducted, though an interagency committee was established in 2004 to improve the consistency of the CJB and MoF statistics. It meets on an ad hoc basis, usually on the CBJ's initiative.⁴⁸ The CBJ is also promoting the adoption of International Accounting Standards (IAS) by the commercial banks.⁴⁹

Balance of payments data can be found on the CBJ website and in the *Monthly Statistics Bulletin*; however, plans to publish an advance calendar for the release of balance of payments statistics have not yet been implemented.⁵⁰

There is good communication between the CBJ and the general public, and there are frequent lectures, interviews, speeches and public relations activities by the CBJ outlining the direction of CBJ policy. Monetary policy instruments are announced in press releases and in the *Monthly Statistics Bulletin*. Interest rates are released to the public daily. The public can contact the CBJ should they require any further information or clarification.⁵¹

The central bank balance sheet

The CBJ publishes its balance sheet and details of its aggregate market transactions in the *Monthly Statistics Bulletin*. The balance sheet shows the breakdown of foreign and domestic assets, including the make-up of claims on central government, public entities, banks, other financial institutions and the private sector. Liabilities are shown broken up by deposit type (bank, demand, quasi-monetary, central government), and as foreign liabilities, capital, reserves and allowances, and unclassified liabilities.⁵²

Lender of last resort

The CBJ is the lender of last resort. However, recently it appears less willing to extend emergency financial support than in the past, as demonstrated by its response to the Philadelphia Bank case in 2006. In the late 1990s around 170 million US dollars was embezzled from the Philadelphia Bank leading to its near failure: the CBJ refused to bail out the bank leading to its eventual merger with Jordan National Bank.⁵³ Furthermore, the 2001 Public Debt Law reduced the scope for lending to government. Any emergency financial support now extended to local banks or other financial institutions is likely to be restricted to assistance for restructuring. Such financing is reported as an aggregate figure in the *Monthly Statistics Bulletin* and fuller accounts are given in the CBJ's *Annual Report*. The Depositors Insurance Corporation provides a deposit insurance scheme to a low maximum of 10,000 Jordanian dinars worth of coverage for depositors in case of bank failure.⁵⁴

Public information services

The central bank continues to consolidate its services for publishing and disseminating monthly and annual data through its publications, its website and the National Information System (managed by the National Information Centre).⁵⁵ The CBJ re-launched its website in 2006, detailing clearly its mission. This is part of a communications strategy that includes the creation of a 'knowledge map' that will allow people inside and outside the CBJ to see where to go for a service, what courses the CBJ offers and what areas its specialists cover. In addition, the CBJ has published its values, goals and instruments on its intranet along with statements on what the CBJ should do to improve communication with the public. Both of these initiatives were started in the last quarter of 2006 and will go onto the public website once they have been tested internally.⁵⁶

The CBJ's principal publications are the *Monthly Statistics Bulletin* and the *Annual Report*. Improvements in the *Bulletin* have meant that users now find it more valuable. However, the limited level of commentary on monetary policy has been a source of some dissatisfaction.⁵⁷ To remedy this concern, the CBJ has started to publish a monthly report in 2006, separate from the *Monthly Statistics Bulletin*, containing the mission statement, information and commentary on monetary policy and balance of payments statistics. It is on the CBJ website and is sent to relevant institutions, but is currently only available in Arabic.⁵⁸ Commentators have stated that these efforts have increased their ability to conduct analysis of CBJ policies and the general economic situation.⁵⁹

A number of laws and regulations relating to the CBJ are available on its website.⁶⁰ These include laws on money exchange, public debt and banking, and foreign exchange regulations. The current anti-money laundering law is available only in Arabic. However, a new Anti-Money Laundering Law, prepared with the assistance of the World Bank, the IMF, and the US-funded Volunteers Programme, has been given cabinet and legal committee approval and will be presented to parliament in December 2006. The law will establish two bodies to monitor the financial sector: one, the National Anti-Money Laundering Council, will regulate the law and outline policies. There is an English version of the new law and procedures.⁶¹ The government is also expected to update the Credit Bureau Law.⁶² The

CBJ also distributes general guidelines (in Arabic) on customs, labour, trade and other economic matters through its website.

A new publication for commercial banks was issued in November 2005. It covers information on resources, excess reserves, and overnight window facilities. This information was previously reported fortnightly, but it is now posted daily on the CBJ website. The Jordan benchmark inter-bank rate is also now posted on the websites of the CBJ and the Association of Banks in Jordan.⁶³

It remains a long-term goal of the CBJ to translate all its publications into English. Currently, the norm is a two to three month lag for these publications. In 2006, the CBJ Code of Conduct was translated into English.⁶⁴

4. ACCOUNTABILITY AND ASSURANCES OF INTEGRITY BY THE CENTRAL BANK

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Accountability before designated public authority

Under Article 61 of the Central Bank Law, the CBJ is required to deliver its *Annual Report* to the MoF within three months of the end of the financial year, which is the same as the calendar year. In addition to this, each year the CBJ prepares a document for parliament and the prime minister detailing its achievements.⁶⁵ The governor is accountable to the prime minister and to parliament. The CBJ governor has a quarterly meeting with the parliamentary finance committee in which he explains policy measures taken by the CBJ. A parliamentary committee is assigned to oversee the CBJ's affairs and laws related to its operations.⁶⁶

Financial statement

Audited financial statement

The CBJ has an internal audit department, in addition to which the Jordan Audit Bureau (JAB) has permanent representatives at the CBJ who are entitled to report independently to parliament. The CBJ publishes its audited annual financial statements in its *Annual Report*, which by law must be distributed publicly.

External and internal audit

The JAB produces its own annual report on the CBJ, as does an external auditor. In accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA), the CBJ appointed Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu as the CBJ's external auditor ("second-partner-review") for a period of three years (2003-2005).⁶⁷ Previously, the external audit was conducted by Saba & Co, a Jordanian firm.

Significant accounting policies are indicated in the *Annual Report*. Since 2001, the CBJ has been preparing its financial statements on an accrual basis.⁶⁸ There are no independent assurances of the integrity of CBJ data. However, independent academic and research institutions have been making increasing use of the CBJ's data and expressed increased confidence in the data.⁶⁹

Conduct of officials

The Central Bank Law sets out basic guidelines on dealing with conflicts of interest and confidentiality of information, and outlines the benefit entitlements of CBJ employees.⁷⁰ Employees are subject to internal employment rules and are protected by the national labour and social security laws.

INTERVIEWS

Representatives of Oxford Analytica interviewed the following individuals during a visit to Jordan between 30 October and 2 November 2006.

Central Bank of Jordan

30 October 2006

Dr. Omar Al-Zoubi	Head	Monetary Division
Dr. Adel Al-Sharkas	Senior Economist	Monetary Division
Nedal Azzam	Senior Economist	Monetary Division

Ministry of Finance

31 October and 1 November 2006

Dr. Hamed Kasasbeh	Secretary General	
Essa Saleh Yasein	Economic Advisor	
Dr. Jamal Al-Homsi	Senior Economist	Research Department
Dr. Ismail S. Zaghoul	Head of Studies and Economic	Policies Directorate
Dr. Hazim T. S. Rahahleh	Economic Advisor	

ADDITIONAL INTERVIEWS

30 October 2006

Dr. Mohamed Abu-Hammour	Secretary General	Executive Privatization Committee
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Jordinvest

2 November 2006

Hani Al-Ali	Executive VP, Corporate Finance	Jordinvest
Ahmad Al-Sabbah	Assistant VP, Research Department	Jordinvest

NOTES

- ¹ Central Bank of Jordan Law No. 23 of 1971 (referred to below as ‘Central Bank Law’) www.cbj.gov.jo/docs/circulars.html
- ² See ‘Central Bank of Jordan: A Brief Outlook’, www.cbj.gov.jo/docs/cbj_english.doc; and the Central Bank Law.
- ³ IMF, ‘Jordan – Concluding Statement for the 2006 Article IV Consultation and Fourth Post-Program Monitoring Discussions’, paragraph 16, 28 November 2006.
- ⁴ Interviews in Amman, 8-23 November 2005, and 30 October – 2 November 2006.
- ⁵ CBJ Annual Report, 2005, page 27.
- ⁶ IMF, ‘Jordan – Concluding Statement for the 2006 Article IV Consultation and Fourth Post-Program Monitoring Discussions’, 28 November 2006.
- ⁷ IMF, ‘Jordan – Concluding Statement for the 2006 Article IV Consultation and Fourth Post-Program Monitoring Discussions’, paragraph 20, 28 November 2006.
- ⁸ In 2002 the CBJ renewed a standby arrangement with the IMF for additional support for efforts to strengthen the CBJ’s autonomy.
- ⁹ IMF, ‘Jordan – Concluding Statement for the 2006 Article IV Consultation and Fourth Post-Program Monitoring Discussions’, paragraph 17, 28 November 2006.
- ¹⁰ Article 25, Central Bank Law.
- ¹¹ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October - 2 November, 2006.
- ¹² Article 49, Central Bank Law.
- ¹³ Interviews in Amman, 2-6 October 2002 and 30 October – 2 November 2006.
- ¹⁴ IMF, ‘Jordan – Concluding Statement for the 2006 Article IV Consultation and Fourth Post-Program Monitoring Discussions’, paragraph 17, 28 November 2006.
- ¹⁵ Interviews in Amman, 2-6 October 2002.
- ¹⁶ Article 9, Central Bank Law.
- ¹⁷ Written communication from the Central Bank of Jordan, August 12, 2004.
- ¹⁸ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October - 2 November, 2006.
- ¹⁹ IMF, ‘Jordan – Concluding Statement for the 2006 Article IV Consultation and Fourth Post-Program Monitoring Discussions’, paragraphs 5 and 15, 28 November 2006.
- ²⁰ Interviews in Amman, 2-6 October 2002.
- ²¹ Articles 13 & 14 Central Bank Law; ‘Central Bank of Jordan: A Brief Outlook,’ www.cbj.gov.jo/docs/cbj_english.doc
- ²² Interviews in Amman, 2-6 October 2002.
- ²³ Communication from the Central Bank of Jordan, 12 September 2002; and see Article 10, Central Bank Law.
- ²⁴ Article 10, Central Bank Law
- ²⁵ Communication from the Central Bank of Jordan, 12 September 2002; and see Article 18, Central Bank Law.
- ²⁶ Article 11, Central Bank Law.
- ²⁷ ‘Data Integrity and Access by the Public – CBJ’, GDDS report, <http://dsbb.imf.org/gddsweb/country/jor/jordiaiackb.htm> and interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November 2006.
- ²⁸ Interviews in Amman, 4-7 October 2004.
- ²⁹ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November, 2006.
- ³⁰ Lectures given by the CBJ governor are usually published in full in the daily newspapers.
- ³¹ ‘Data Integrity and Access by the Public – CBJ’, GDDS report, <http://dsbb.imf.org/gddsweb/country/jor/jordiaiackb.htm>
- ³² Article 45, Central Bank Law.
- ³³ Written communication from the Central Bank of Jordan, August 12, 2004.
- ³⁴ Interviews in Amman, 8-23 November 2005.
- ³⁵ Interviews in Amman, 2-6 October 2002.
- ³⁶ Interviews in Amman, 8-23 November 2005.
- ³⁷ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November, 2006.
- ³⁸ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November, 2006.
- ³⁹ Interviews in Amman, 8-23 November 2005.
- ⁴⁰ Interviews in Amman, 30 October – 2 November, 2006.
- ⁴¹ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November, 2006.
- ⁴² IMF, ‘Jordan Post-Programme Monitoring Discussions – Staff Report and Public Information Notice on the Executive Board Consideration’, March 2005. Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November 2006.
- ⁴³ IMF, ‘Jordan—Letter of Intent, Memorandum of Economic and Financial Policies, and Technical Memorandum of Understanding’, June 19, 2003.

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- ⁴⁴ IMF, 'Jordan: 2004 Article IV Consultation and Second Review under the Stand-By Arrangement—Staff Report; Staff Statement; Public Information Notice and Press Release on the Executive Board Discussion; and Statement by the Executive Director for Jordan', May 2004.
- ⁴⁵ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November 2006.
- ⁴⁶ IMF, 'Jordan: 2004 Article IV Consultation and Second Review under the Stand-By Arrangement—Staff Report; Staff Statement; Public Information Notice and Press Release on the Executive Board Discussion; and Statement by the Executive Director for Jordan', May 2004.
- ⁴⁷ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November, 2006.
- ⁴⁸ Interviews in Amman, 8-23 November 2005.
- ⁴⁹ IMF, 'Jordan: Third Review Under the Stand-By Arrangement; and Press Release on the Executive Board Discussion', September 2004.
- ⁵⁰ While the CBJ could produce an advance release calendar for its own data, it also relies on data from other sources such as government ministries, which are not committed to regularly submitting their data by a specified date. Interviews in Amman, 8-23 November 2005.
- ⁵¹ Interviews in Amman, 8-23 November 2005.
- ⁵² 'Balance sheet of the Central Bank of Jordan', www.cbj.gov.jo/docs/bul_1_e.html
- ⁵³ *Jordan Times*, 'Merger of Philadelphia Bank with JNB expected next month'. 19 April 2005; Jordan National Movement, 'Corruption Report (1)', 19 September 2006 (page 2; www.arabtimes.com/CorruptionReport1.pdf); and *Jordan Times*, 'Former bank chairman charged with embezzlement dies', 27 November 2006.
- ⁵⁴ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November 2006.
- ⁵⁵ See 'Economic Information Net', National Information System at: www.cbj.gov.jo/docs/nis_m_e.html
- ⁵⁶ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November, 2006.
- ⁵⁷ Interviews in Amman, 4-7 October 2004.
- ⁵⁸ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November, 2006.
- ⁵⁹ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November, 2006.
- ⁶⁰ CBJ laws and regulations are accessible at: www.cbj.gov.jo/docs/circulars.html
- ⁶¹ Interviews in Amman, 30 October – 2 November, 2006; Central Bank of Jordan, 'Regulations of Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing Circular No. (29/2006)' at www.cbj.gov.jo/uploads/aml.pdf.
- ⁶² Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November, 2006; *Jordan Times*, 'Gov't tasked with enacting 'We are All Jordan' recommendations', 6 August 2006.
- ⁶³ Interviews in Amman, 8-23 November 2005.
- ⁶⁴ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November, 2006.
- ⁶⁵ Interviews in Jordan, 30 October – 2 November, 2006.
- ⁶⁶ Article 61, Central Bank Law.
- ⁶⁷ Interviews in Amman, 4-7 October 2004.
- ⁶⁸ Communication from the Central Bank of Jordan, 12 September 2002.
- ⁶⁹ Interviews in Amman, 2-6 October 2002.
- ⁷⁰ Article 11, Central Bank Law.