

Türkiye- MPC Meeting

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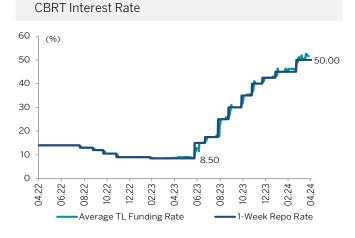
April 2024 - Policy rate on hold at 50% as expected

The CBRT has kept the 1-week repo (policy) interest rate on hold at 50.0% in line with the Bloomberg survey. The CBRT had raised the policy rate by 500 bps at the March MPC meeting due to the deteriorating inflation outlook.

The next MPC meeting will be held on May 23. The CBRT will publish the second Inflation Report of the year on May 9. CBRT Governor Fatih Karahan's statements and CBRT's year-end inflation forecasts will be closely followed.

According to the meeting note;

- •It was stated that financial conditions have tightened significantly. Considering the lagged effects of the tightening, the policy rate was kept unchanged while it remains highly attentive to inflation risks. "The monetary policy decisions in March have led to a significant tightening in financial conditions. The effects of monetary tightening on credit conditions and domestic demand are closely monitored. Considering the lagged effects of the monetary tightening, the Committee decided to keep the policy rate unchanged, but reiterated that it remains highly attentive to inflation risks."
- •There is no change in the statements regarding the monetary policy for the upcoming period. "The tight monetary stance will be maintained until a significant and sustained decline in the underlying trend of monthly inflation is observed, and inflation expectations converge to the projected forecast range. Monetary policy stance will be tightened in case a significant and persistent deterioration in inflation is foreseen. The decisiveness regarding tight monetary stance will bring down the underlying trend of monthly inflation through moderation in domestic demand, real appreciation in Turkish lira, and improvement in inflation expectations. Consequently, disinflation will be established in the second half of 2024."
- •Statements on macroprudential policies and liquidity management were maintained. "The Committee continues to implement macroprudential policies in a way to preserve the functionality of the market mechanism and macro financial stability. In this context, monetary transmission mechanism will continue to be supported in case of unanticipated developments in credit growth and deposit rates. Market liquidity will be closely monitored and sterilization tools will continue to be effectively used whenever needed."
- •March inflation was higher than expected and domestic demand remained resilient. Factors keeping inflation pressures alive were generally maintained. "The impact of wage increases on inflation", which was among the factors monitored in the last month's text, was not included this month. "In March, despite an ongoing decline, the underlying trend of monthly inflation was higher than expected. While imports of consumption goods and gold contribute to the improvement in the current account balance, other recent indicators imply that domestic demand remains resilient. In addition to the high level of and the stickiness in services inflation, inflation expectations, geopolitical risks, and food prices keep inflationary pressures alive. The Committee closely monitors the alignment of inflation expectations and pricing behavior with projections."



Inflation Expectations (Market Participants Survey)



Source: CBRT, Garanti BBVA Securities



Nihan Ziya Erdem Chief Economist Research Direct Tel :+90 212 384 11 31 Tel :+90 212 384 10 10 nihanz@garantibbya.com.tr

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Nisbetiye Mahallesi Barbaros Bul. Çiftçi Towers Kule 1, 34340 Beşiktaş/İstanbul Phone: 212 384 1121 Fax: 212 352 4240 E-mail:<u>arastirma@garantibbva.com.tr</u>