# STATEMENT OF THE CENTRAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN ON MAIN DIRECTIONS OF THE MONETARY POLICY FOR 2024

*With the purposeful policy implemented under the leadership of the Honorable President Mr. Aliyev, macroeconomic stability indicators improved, and economic growth continued in 2023.*

*In 2023 the Central Bank of the Republic of Azerbaijan implemented the monetary policy oriented towards reverting inflation to the target band. Annual inflation dropped due to both external and internal factors in the current year and began to stabilize within the target range after a twenty-five-month break. The FX market equilibrium, the appreciation of the nominal effective exchange rate of the manat, monetary policy decisions and government measures were crucial in curbing inflationary pressures.*

*Efforts under way to improve the monetary policy operational framework, develop the money market infrastructure and expand the communication of the monetary policy continued to elevate opportunities to control inflation. Average interest rates on money market operations began to shape within the interest rate corridor of the Central Bank for the first time, reacting to changes in parameters of the corridor.*

*In 2024 the monetary policy of the Central Bank will be oriented towards preserving price stability, i.e., maintaining low and stable inflation in the country. The main objective of the monetary policy will be to retain inflation within the target band announced in the 'Socio-economic development Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2022-2026'. The Bank will contribute to the sustainable growth of the country economy by fostering price stability.*

*Monetary policy decisions will be based on changes in both external and internal factors in the inflationary environment, as well as updated macroeconomic forecasts for 2024. The strengthening of downside factors and the stabilization of inflation expectations allows to predict that annual inflation will be within the target range in 2024.*

*Reforms will continue to improve the strategic and operational framework of the monetary policy and expand monetary policy communication. These reforms will contribute to more effective transmission of monetary policy decisions to inflation.*

## I. THE MONETARY POLICY IN 2023
### 1.1. Monetary policy environment

*In 2023 the external economic environment was under the pressure of geo-political tensions. Over the period global trade was influenced by the processes of global economic fragmentation. Global economic activity weakened, and financial stability risks elevated. Global energy and food prices fell, monetary policy tightening*

*continued in most countries of the world. All this contributed to the fall in inflation. While inflationary pressures weakened in trade partners, actual inflation prevailed over the target in most partners. Despite these global challenges, the external conditions remained favorable for Azerbaijan, characterized by a significant surplus in the balance of payments and sustained non-oil-gas economic growth.*

Geopolitical tensions and geo-economic fragmentations, lingering effect of the pandemic, severe climatic anomalies and the financial condition tightening had negative impact on global economic growth in 2023, manifesting itself in some indicators. The business confidence index, the economic activity indicator in the business sector across the OECD countries, decreased. Global economic developments weighed on forecasts of international organizations. According to the recent World Economic Outlook (WEO) by IMF, global economic growth is expected to drop to 3% in 2023 from 3.5% in 2022.

Lower demand on a global scale induced price drop in global commodity markets in the current year. According to the World Bank, over 11 months of 2023 global commodity price index decreased by 14.9%. Additionally, the UN FAO reported 8.7% drop in the food price index during the same period. With recovery of the global supply chain transportation costs and durations returned to pre-pandemic levels, which in turn had contributed to drive inflation down.

The highest price drop was in energy products in the current year. The Brent oil price was $82.6/b over 11 months of 2023, 16.8% decrease compared to the average price for 2022 ($99.2/b). Higher-than-average natural gas reserves in storage in Europe were critical in normalization of gas prices in 2023.

Global inflation subdues due to the drop in global commodity prices and the implementation of anti-inflationary measures. According to the IMF, global inflation will stand at 6.9% in 2023, down by 1.8 pp compared to 2022. Average inflation rate across trade partners of Azerbaijan is falling. The lower rate of decline in core inflation is attributable to the transmission of past shocks to inflation, high corporate profits, and high unit labor costs due to weaker productivity.

Amid rising geopolitical tension global economic fragmentation and monetary policy tightening by central banks weighed on the financial sector and global financial markets in the current year too. Financial stability risks became actual in some leading countries; however, those risks were regulated with an immediate response by authorities.

Effects of the complicated global economic environment on the country economy were multifaceted. Though slightly decreased year-over-year, prices for main Azerbaijani export products remained favorable, which had a positive effect on the balance of payments, the FX market equilibrium and economic activity.

In 2023 foreign trade balance, the main component of the balance of payments remained in surplus. Over 11 months foreign trade surplus amounted to $15.7B. Over 9 months of 2023 current account surplus amounted to $6.7B (12.5% of GDP). In the presence of the balance of payments surplus strategic foreign exchange reserves increased by 16.6% to $68.2B over 11 months of 2023.

Economic growth continued in 2023. In January-November 2023 real GDP y.o.y. increased by 0.8% and by 3.2% on the non-oil-gas sector. Non-oil-gas economic growth was supported both by internal and external demand. The employment rate also grew over the period.

The results of the real sector monitoring survey conducted by the Central Bank of the Republic of Azerbaijan confirm that economic activity continues to persist. Over the course of 11 months, the year-over-year business confidence index increased on trade, services, and construction. Capacity utilization elevated in non-oil-gas entities. Surveys conducted among households suggest that in December 2023, the consumer confidence index showed a year-over-year improvement, entering the positive zone. Aggregate demand expansion underpinned economic growth. Over 11 months of 2023 retail trade turnover y.o.y. increased by 3.6% and non-oil-gas investments increased by 12.5%.

Government demand is still one of the main sources of aggregate demand. Over 11 months state budget expenditures increased by 12.2% y.o.y., including current expenses increased by 8.4% and capital expenses by 29.7%. An increase in state investment expenditures with changes to the 2023 state budget provided additional support to economic activity.

## 1.2. The monetary policy in 2023 and its consequences

*In 2023 the Central Bank oriented the monetary policy towards reverting inflation to the target band and stabilizing inflation expectations. Monetary policy tools were applied considering the liquidity position of the banking system and the dynamics of external and internal factors in the inflationary environment. Over the reporting period reforms continued to increase monetary policy transmission to control inflation.*

According to official statistics, in November 2023 twelve-month inflation stood at 2.6%, in the lower bound of the target band (4±2%). Annual inflation has been within the target band for already three months in a row. Annual core inflation, calculated by excluding changes in regulated prices and prices for seasonal products decreased to 2.9% in November.

In 2023 inflation decreased across all its components. In November annual food inflation decreased to 1.5%. Non-food prices increased by 3.1% on an annual basis, while service prices rose by 4% over the same year. In terms of overall annual inflation,

food prices contributed 0.7 percentage points, non-food prices contributed 0.7 percentage points, and changes in prices and tariffs of services contributed 1.2 percentage points. The dynamics of actual inflation weighed on inflation expectations too. According to survey-based assessments, households' twelve-month inflation expectation is 2.4%, which is within the target range.

Analyses suggest that annual inflation decreased due to the influence of both external and internal factors, including the implemented anti-inflationary policy in addition to the base effect. Relative drop in average weighted inflation across partners, the decline in global commodity prices and revert of international freight costs to pre-pandemic levels had downward pressure on domestic inflation. The FX market equilibrium amid the balance of payments surplus, the appreciated NEER of the manat, anti-inflationary actions by the government and monetary policy decisions eased inflationary pressures. Moreover, tailoring of the interest rate corridor parameters to the macroeconomic stance, adequate application of monetary policy tools, the increase of reserve requirements and adjustments to macro-prudential requirements contained overexpansion of aggregate demand.

The FX market equilibrium played a crucial role in containing inflation import. Over the past period of 2023 supply prevailed over demand at 95% of currency auctions held at the Central Bank. On this backdrop, despite high exchange rate volatility in certain trade partner countries, the national currency maintained its stability. Over 11 months the NEER appreciated by 19.5%, the factor that has a downward effect on imported inflation.

In general, the strengthening of mitigating factors in the inflationary environment and the stabilization of inflation expectations provide a basis for predicting that annual inflation will be in the lower bound of the target band by the end of the year.

In 2023, the Central Bank formulated monetary policy decisions by taking into account global and national economic developments and updated forecasts. Over the period, the Bank discussed interest rate corridor parameters eight times. The Management Board decided to shift the refinancing rate from 8.25% to 9%, the interest rate corridor ceiling from 9.25% to 10% and the interest rate corridor floor from 6.25% to 7.5% at the first three meetings dedicated to the monetary policy. The objective to raise interest rates was to contain overexpansion of aggregate demand affected by external and internal factors. At the next three meetings the Central Bank took a break in monetary policy tightening considering the drop in actual and forecasted inflation. And the Bank started to reduce interest rates at recent two meetings. At present, the ceiling of the interest rate corridor stands at 9%, the refinancing rate at 8% and the floor of the interest rate corridor at 6.5%. The initiation of monetary policy easing is

also intended to mitigate the strengthening pressures on the exchange rate of the manat within the framework of the current exchange rate regime.

Over the period, a number of actions were taken to improve the monetary policy operational framework. Open market operations and standing facilities were used actively over the year to achieve monetary policy targets. Commercial banks' interest in daily deposit operations – a standing facility – was high. The quota applied on standing liquidity absorbing facility was increased at the end of February and was removed on August 15. The Bank continued regular auctions on placement of 28-day (1 month), 84-day (3 months), 168-day (6 months) and 252-day (9 months) notes for liquidity absorbing purposes. To regulate interest rates in the interbank money market and promptly contain the impact of external (autonomous) factors beyond the monetary policy the Bank also conducted seven-day operations. To optimize the competitive environment and boost investor confidence at note auctions, some changes were made to the terms of placement of notes of the Central Bank. In general, the Central Bank conducted 117 various duration note auctions over 11 months.

As part of the efforts to formulate an alternative monetary policy anchor the 'Regulations on calculation and publication of the benchmark rate (AZIR – Azerbaijan Interbank Rate) index at the unsecured interbank Money market' were approved by the decision of the Management Board of the Central Bank. Information on the weighted average interest rate, size, and number of transactions between banks in the national currency via the Bloomberg platform has been placed on the website of the Central Bank, on a daily basis since May. The Baku Stock Exchange approved changes to the 'Regulations on calculation and publication of indices on transactions concluded at the repo market,' which allows the publication of representative interest rate indices at the secured money market (AINA – Azn INdex Average) at a higher frequency.

Over the period, to regulate money supply more effectively, contain liquidity concentration across banks and stimulate de-dollarization, the level and differentiation of reserve requirements were revised in a several phases (February, August, and November 2023). The Bank gradually raised the differentiation rate of required reserves. According to estimations of the Central Bank, recent changes to the required reserves ratio and order of differentiation have a minor effect on cost of liabilities across the banking sector. Monetary reforms had a positive effect on more efficient management of liquidity by banks, interbank market activity and formation of the yield curve. A total of AZN 27.4 billion, involving 2313 unsecured transactions, were concluded between banks in the national currency through the Bloomberg platform in the first 11 months of 2023. Additionally, transactions worth AZN 4.5 billion, totaling 1215, were concluded in the interbank Repo market during the same period. Interest

rates both at secured and unsecured money market reacted to changes in the interest rate corridor over the year. Average interest rates in the money market began to align within the interest rate corridor of the Central Bank for the first time. Over the past period of December 2023, the average interest rate on 1-3-day transactions in the unsecured interbank money market (1D AZIR) stood at 7.5%, while average interest rates on 6-8-day average interest rates in the interbank Repo market (1W AINA$_{IB}$) stood at 7.8%. Analyses suggest that interbank interest rates on certain bank groups and interest rates on manat deposits of legal entities move in the same directions, indicating an improvement in the transmission of monetary policy decisions through the interest rate channel. Liquidity absorbing operations of the Central Bank, while supported both interbank money market activity and regulation of average interest rates, have also contained excess growth of money supply. Money base in manat increased by 5%, and broad money supply in manat (M2) increased by 15.7%. Money supply growth was driven by purchase-oriented interventions of the Central Bank to the FX market for the needs of the fiscal sector. Due to purchase-oriented forex interventions Central Bank's foreign exchange reserves increased by 18% to exceed $10.6B over 11 months.

To strengthen analytic support for monetary policy decision-making the Central Bank continued to improve its analysis and forecasting capabilities in 2023. Over the year analytic efforts of the Central Bank were guided by the 'Methodological guidelines on the forecasting and policy analysis system' that took effect with the decision of the Management Board dated 21.12.2022. Econometric models allowing short and medium-term forecasting were improved. Findings of real sector monitoring by the Central Bank and information on prices regularly received from retail outlets were used in the analysis of inflationary developments along with official statistic indicators. Research results were publicly discussed on 13-17 February 2023 as part of the 'Central Bank's research week' event.

Over the period the Central Bank's monetary policy became more transparent. Central Bank's press releases on monetary policy decisions were published with relevant analytic comments, aided by regular press conferences. The monetary policy review was made public quarterly. The Central Bank started disclosing its forecasts on main macroeconomic indicators (twelve-month inflation, current account balance, real growth of general and non-oil-gas GDP). Central Bank's activities were regularly highlighted via its official website and social networks. Educational and analytic materials were made public both in writing and in a video format. Regular meetings continued with financial market participants and independent economic experts. Considering a specific role of mass media in monetary policy communication, educational events continued for media representatives.

Over the reporting period adoption of the new banking legislation strengthened Central Bank independence and had a positive effect on the improvement of the monetary policy operational framework. The Central Bank aligned its regulations to the new legislation.

## II. THE MONETARY POLICY FOR 2024
### 2.1. Macroeconomic forecasts and expectations

*The main directions of the monetary policy for 2024 have been developed considering forecasts for the global economy and commodity markets, as well as for external, fiscal, financial, and real sectors of the country for the upcoming year. Forecasts suggest that global economic growth is expected to drop, global energy and food prices will stabilize, and inflation will subdue in trade partners next year. In general, the external condition is forecasted to be favorable for the Azerbaijan economy.*

Global economic growth-related forecasts for 2024 are formed in the environment of the tight monetary policy in advanced economies amid lingering uncertainties regarding global activity and ongoing fight with inflation. Moreover, further fragmentation in the world, likelihood of contagion of sovereign debt crisis to more countries and still weak economic recovery in China due to persistent real estate problem have a downward effect on global economic growth expectations. In 2023, recession in certain European countries further increased global recessions related risks. In the WEO October 2023, the IMF revised its global economic growth forecast for 2024 down by 0.1 pp to 2.9% compared to the previous forecast. The report forecasts 1.4% economic growth in advanced and 4% economic growth in emerging market economies. The large-scale realization of financial stability related risks in advanced economies constitutes downside risks to these forecasts.

Forecasts suggest that in 2024 global inflationary pressures will recede at a slow pace. According to the recent forecasts by the IMF, global inflation will decrease from 6.9% in 2023 to 5.8% in 2024. Note that, average annual inflation was 3.4% in 2017-2019.

In general, the uncertainty related to expected dynamics of prices remains. The IMF in its recent release addresses some negative shocks likely to affect commodity prices. Higher than expected average temperature related to climate change, fragmentation of the global economy amid geopolitical tensions may trigger increases in commodity, in particular food and energy prices.

Economic growth slowdown also weighs on the dynamics of global trade. According to recent forecasts, global trade is expected to grow by 3.5% in 2024, much

lower than the average rate of 2000-2019 (4.9%). More obstacles in global trade and the appreciation of the US dollar over the past period are affecting the global trade.

Global energy prices will react to global economic activity, geopolitical factors and decisions made as part of OPEC+ next year too. Extension of oil output cut by OPEC+ will have an upward effect on oil prices. The weakening of global economic activity will have a downward pressure on global energy prices. The IMF forecasts that oil prices will be around $80 in 2024.

The Central Bank will also regularly update its macroeconomic forecasts under various scenarios in 2024, depending on the changes in domestic economic environment.

Current account of the balance of payments is estimated to be in surplus in 2024. Under the baseline scenario in 2024 current account surplus will amount to $7-8B (9-10% of GDP). The balance of payments of Azerbaijan will be driven by the global geopolitical situation, world prices on main export products, the macroeconomic stance in trade partners and non-oil-gas export potential in 2024 too.

The real sector in Azerbaijan is forecasted to keep growing in 2024. According to forecasts by the Central Bank, in 2024 real economic growth rate will range between 3-3.5%, and between 5-5.5% on the non-oil-gas sector. Large-scale reconstruction works in the liberated territories will give positive impulses to economic growth in the upcoming year too. Maintaining macroeconomic stability in the country will remain one of the key conditions for the realization of the economic growth forecast. Expectations of the government, international financial institutions and leading rating agencies related to the economic growth outlook in Azerbaijan are optimistic.

Measures implemented within the framework of other directions of the economic policy will also be considered in the development of Central Bank's macroeconomic forecasts.

In 2024 the fiscal policy will be one of the factors to weigh in on the monetary policy implementation condition, banking system liquidity, the FX market and aggregate demand as well. Continuing the application of the budget rule within the framework of newly adopted parameters will be critical in terms of maintaining fiscal sustainability next year. Government investments may make a significant contribution to boosting economic potential of the country and optimizing its structure, the factor likely to have an impact on inflation in the long term.

## 2.2. Main directions of the monetary policy for 2024

*In 2024, the monetary policy of the Central Bank will be oriented towards maintaining price stability and stabilization of forecasted inflation and inflation expectations within the target band. The implementation of reforms will continue to strengthen the monetary policy transmission and improve the operational framework,*

*more effectively manage banking sector liquidity, and expand infrastructural capacity of financial markets.*

According to the 'Socio-economic development Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2022-2026', the target of the monetary policy for the next year will be to maintain annual inflation within the range of 4±2%. As in previous years, the target indicator will be the 12-month change in the consumer price index published by the State Statistics Committee.

Considering the ongoing monetary policy adjusted to recent forecasts of the Central Bank, annual inflation is expected to range 5-5.5% in 2024. Slowdown in external factors of inflation and anti-inflationary actions taken jointly with the government will support the formation of inflation within the target band in the medium run. The Central Bank will regularly update its inflation forecasts in 2024 as well, based on a comprehensive analysis of inflationary factors. The Bank will analyze the dynamics of overall and core inflation on an ongoing basis and assess inflation expectations.

Certain risks related to price stability are still relevant for 2024. External factors – the dynamics of commodity prices in the world market and inflationary developments in trade partners will contribute to inflation in our country in the year to come. Amid persistent geopolitical tensions globally, the said external factors may be very variable. A decline in global economic activity and the materialization of financial stability risks on a global scale may impact macroeconomic stability in the country through various channels too. In particular, high volatility of world energy prices may threaten the external conditions of Azerbaijan. Note that, the government and the Central Bank have a crisis management experience and enough resources to minimize negative effects of possible external shocks. Overexpansion of aggregate demand and rising inflation expectations under the influence of cost factors are the main sources of risks in attaining the inflation target. If the current trends linger, there is a likelihood of purchase-oriented foreign exchange interventions for fiscal purposes in 2024. When aggregate demand expands at a higher rate compared to the country's production potential, imports also expand along with prices, likely leading to a reduction in the current account surplus in the long run. The faster growth of the average monthly salary compared to labor productivity poses inflationary risks in the long run.

FX market developments will remain one of the key factors considered in monetary policy decision-making in 2024. The NEER of the manat is expected to limit imported inflation next year too. Considering its critical role in management of inflation, the Central Bank will continue closely monitoring the dynamics of the NEER in 2024. The state of the balance of payments, foreign exchange supply and demand of the fiscal sector, as well as exchange rate expectations of economic agents will be crucial

factors to affect the FX market equilibrium. The Central Bank will intervene in the FX market, if necessary, to achieve operational targets on the exchange rate policy and will continue the policy of de-dollarization to boost the confidence of the population in the national currency. The Bank will focus on managing foreign exchange reserves considering internationally accepted adequacy norms in the upcoming year too.

The interest rate corridor of the Central Bank will be one of the main facilities to influence the monetary conditions and thus the aggregate demand next year since the interest rate corridor affects all segments of financial markets directly and indirectly. Decisions related to interest rate corridor parameters will be made considering changes in external and internal factors of inflation and updated macroeconomic forecasts. As in previous years, in 2024 the interest rate corridor is expected to be discussed at the Management Board of the Central Bank under the schedule previously made public. Making decisions under the schedule is important in terms of effective management of expectations. However, if necessary, due to considerable changes in the economy and the financial sector, as well as adjustments to the operational framework, out-of-schedule decisions related to the interest rate corridor are not ruled out[1]. When making decisions on the interest rate corridor, the nature of transmission of the monetary policy in Azerbaijan and changes in the global financial conditions will also be considered. Because the monetary policy passes through to economic processes with a certain time lag, decisions on the interest rate corridor will be made based on ongoing trends on inflationary factors. In other words, no monetary policy response is required if inflation deviates from the target due to the influence of temporary factors and it is forecast to revert to the target in the short run. The Central Bank will respond if inflation deviates from the target due to persistent factors.

The Central Bank will adequately and flexibly use all tools in its arsenal in 2024 as well to enable short term interest rates in the money market to change in the same direction as the interest rate corridor parameters of the Central Bank. The Central Bank will select the range of tools it employs based on the dynamics observed in the inflationary environment and the financial market. Flexible usage of monetary policy tools will facilitate to effective performance of the transmission mechanism. Standing facilities, open market operations and reserve requirements will be used in liquidity management. Decisions on quantitative parameters and duration of tools will be made promptly depending on the liquidity position of the banking system. The Bank will continue to regularly assess the liquidity position of the banking system. Considering the considerable influence of fiscal operations on the banking system liquidity, initiatives will continue to broaden interinstitutional information sharing.

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[1] For instance, due to beginning of the application of monetary policy tools under new configuration, on 31 August 2022 the Management Board discussed the interest rate corridor out-of-schedule and took a relevant decision.

Safeguarding and further developing financial sector stability in the country will be one of the factors to have a positive impact on the effectiveness of the monetary policy next year as well. Contribution of recent amendments to the legislation to cashless payments will broaden the sphere of influence of the monetary policy. The Bank will again focus on adjusting the monetary policy to Central Bank's other functional directions, including financial stability policies. Active dialogues with the financial sector community will continue on safeguarding financial stability and improving the monetary policy operational framework.

The monetary policy framework will be improved as part of the 'Formation of baseline conditions for transition to inflation targeting' according to the Actions Plan of the 'Socio-economic development Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2022-2026'. The Central Bank will continue close cooperation with the government for the realization of conditions for the transition to the new monetary policy regime. Efforts on the transition to inflation targeting will gradually allow more effective management of inflation.

Analysis and forecasting capacity building in the Central Bank will be kept on focus next year too. The forecasting and policy analysis system with short and long-term forecasting models included will be further improved. This system will enable the analysis of current trends and the formulation of opinions on the most probable changes in macroeconomic variables within one or two quarters. Efforts will be increased to regularly adjust advanced models to the country specifics of the Azerbaijan economy and expand the spectrum of forecast indicators. One of the targets set by the Central Bank for 2024 is to improve the macroeconomic forecasting ability considering the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in analytics and economic models. The main objective is to make theoretically and econometrically adequate monetary policy decisions considering findings of models. The model framework will be improved based on recent scientific studies of Azerbaijani and foreign experts on the macroeconomy and quantitative methods, as well as best practices of central banks. To obtain alternative statistic indicators, cooperation will be expanded with the real sector, and the formation of large-value microeconomic databases will be continued.

Information openness will be one of the key principles of the monetary policy pursued in the next year as well. Efforts will continue to make monetary policy communication more effective and expand its scope. The Central Bank will regularly publish information on Bank's assessments regarding the monetary policy implemented, the macroeconomic stance in the country and its prospects. This information will cover policy rate decisions, analytic publications on inflation and financial markets, FX market developments and the improvement of monetary policy

tools. Projects will be broadened with diverse focus groups of the population to raise financial literacy of the broad public. Higher public awareness will enable the Central Bank to influence inflationary processes via the inflation expectations channel. Press-releases will be published aided by analytic comments under the pre-announced schedule (attached) and regular press-conferences will continue to be held in 2024. In addition to the actual adjustment of the interest rate corridor, consideration will also be given to the transmission of signals on the potential direction of further changes. Analytic reports will be published quarterly. Central Bank's activities will be regularly highlighted via its official website, as well as social network accounts. Meetings will continue with financial sector representatives and independent economic experts to effectively communicate the policy pursued and get feedback.

Achieving the inflation target will also depend significantly on the coordination among macroeconomic policy institutions in 2024. Accordingly, the Central Bank will continue initiatives to strengthen the coordination of the monetary policy with various directions of the economic policy.

The implementation of the measures specified in Decrees No 109s of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated 21.02.2022 'on Urgent measures on strengthening anti-inflationary measures in the Republic of Azerbaijan' and No 565s dated 15.07.2023 'on Additional measures on strengthening the monitoring of inflation and prices' will have a positive effect on achieving the inflation target in the upcoming year too.

**Schedule of disclosure of monetary policy decision to public**

In 2024, decisions related to the parameters of the interest rate corridor will be announced eight times under the schedule below:

January 31
March 28
May 1
June 21
July 31
September 18
October 30
December 18

Disclosure of decisions will be accompanied with press conferences on January 31, May 1, July 31, and October 30. Decisions will come into force on the working day following their announcement.