

## **Introduction**

I am pleased to present this special edition of the Monthly Monetary Statistics (MMS), which includes time series for the main monetary and banking variables of the Kuwaiti economy some of which extend for more than forty years, serving thus as a reference for those interested in the Kuwaiti economy in general, and in the banking and financial developments in particular.

This special edition of MMS comes within the Central Bank of Kuwait's (CBK) continuous quest to develop its statistical databases for the domestic banking and financial sector in particular and monetary aggregates in general. This special edition also reflects CBK's efforts to enhance disclosure and transparency through expanding the coverage of published data and information, and providing convenient access thereto.

This special edition of MMS complements the Quarterly Statistical Bulletin (QSB) previously issued by CBK, which included 65 statistical tables with 1035 extended and varied time series on the Kuwaiti economy taking into account the most recent monetary, banking, financial and economic concepts and terms, as commonly recognized within the manuals prepared and published by the concerned international institutions and organizations, chief among them the International Monetary Fund. This special edition of MMS has been given a careful update to ensure the quality of the data and statistics, maintain their expanded scope and publish the final up to date data.

This edition contains 42 statistical tables for various time series of the monetary and banking indicators and statistics in the State of Kuwait including the main monetary and banking aggregates, CBK's budget, public debt instruments, the aggregate balance sheet of local banks (conventional and those operating in accordance with the Islamic Shari'a), the aggregate balance sheet of investment and finance companies (conventional and those operating in accordance with the Islamic Shari'a) and their contra accounts, exchange companies and their revenues and expenditures, and plastic cards transaction values including the numbers of the plastic cards, transactions and payment machines (ATM and Point of Sale (POS) machines) in the State of Kuwait, in addition to many other monetary indicators such as interest rate on customer deposits with local banks and exchange rate of KD and GCC currencies against US dollar and other major currencies.

Finally, we hope that this special edition of the MMS will bring the expected benefit, and that the effort expended to produce it fairly reflects CBK's keenness to continue developing its databases and statistics. We ask the Almighty to abet our efforts and endeavors for the good and glory of our beloved country, under the patronage of His Highness the Emir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown

Prince Sheikh Nawwaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

**Dr. Mohammad Y. Al-Hashel**  
**Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait**