



**BASEL II PILLAR 3  
QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES**

**31 DECEMBER 2008**

## Table of contents

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. GENERAL	1
2. SUBSIDIARIES & SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS	1
3. BANK'S CAPITAL STRUCTURE	2
4. BANK'S CAPITAL ADEQUACY	2
5. BANK'S RISK MANAGEMENT	2
6. BANK'S CREDIT EXPOSURES	8
7. EXTERNAL CREDIT ASSESMENT INSTITUTIONS (ECAIs) USED	10
8. CREDIT RISK MITIGATION	10
9. COUNTERPARTY CREDIT RISK	10
10. MARKET RISK CAPITAL CALCULATION	11
11. OPERATIONAL RISK CAPITAL CALCULATION	12
12. EQUITIES (BANKING BOOK POSITIONS)	12
13. BANKING BOOK INTEREST RATE RISK	12

## 1. GENERAL

Under the directives of Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA), the banks operating in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with effect from 1 January 2008, implemented new Basel framework commonly known as Basel II framework. In this regard SAMA's aim is to encourage market discipline through disclosures which will provide the reader more valuable information about the banks' risks and exposures. Based on this, below are the necessarily disclosures pertaining to Basel II, Pillar 3 framework

## 2. SUBSIDIARIES & SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS

i- SAMA disclosure requirements apply to Arab National Bank (ANB). A brief description of the bank's subsidiary is as follows:

### **Arab National Bank Investment Company (ANBI):**

A wholly owned (directly and indirectly) Saudi limited liability company, registered in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia under commercial registration No. 1010239908 issued on 26 Shawal 1428 (corresponding to November 7, 2007). The main activities are to manage the Bank's investment services and asset management activities related to dealing, managing, arranging, advising and custody of securities regulated by the Capital Market Authority. The subsidiary commenced its operations effective Muharram 3, 1429H (corresponding to January 12, 2008). Accordingly, the Bank started consolidating the financial statements of the above mentioned subsidiary effective January 12, 2008.

Apart from this, the Bank has investments in equity higher than 10% where, under the instructions of SAMA, 50% of the investment was deducted each from Tier 1 capital and Tier II capital.

### **Saudi Home Loan Company (SHL):**

A Saudi limited liability company owned 40% by ANB and the remaining 60 % owned by Dar Al Arkan Real Estate Development Company (DAAR), International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Kingdom Installment Company (KIC).

SHL was established as a specialized Islamic home finance company within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Products and services are fully Shari'ah compliant. The company's authorized capital is SAR 2 billion, out of which a total amount of SAR 500 million was paid by the shareholders as of 31 December 2008.

### **Ejar Cranes & Equipment LLC (Ejar):**

ANB has 16.67% (SAR 75 million) ownership interest in the Company. Ejar is a dedicated crane leasing company which was founded in Dubai at the end of 2006. The company is a joint venture between a number of regional companies who have a vested interest in the provision of plant machinery, and specifically cranes. As of 31 December 2008, the bank's paid capital in Ejar reached SAR 58 million

ii- Restrictions and impediments on transfer of funds.

No restrictions or major impediments on transfer of funds or regulatory capital between the bank and its fully owned subsidiary, apart from obtaining SAMA approval, when required.

### **3. BANK'S CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

The bank's capital comprises of:

Tier 1 capital which is the core measure of a bank's financial strength from a regulator's point of view. It is composed of paid up capital, eligible reserves, retained earnings and adjustments to the effect of IAS-Type valuation on securities held for sale and with 50 % deduction of significant minority investment at 10% and above ;

Tier II capital, composed of subordinated loan capital, qualifying general provisions with 50 % deduction of significant minority investment at 10% and above.

During the year ended December 31, 2006, the Bank issued USD 500 million 10 year subordinated floating rate notes under its USD 850 million Euro Medium Term Note program. The notes carry a special commission rate of Libor plus 83 bps. The notes are non-convertible, unsecured and listed on the London stock exchange. These notes are callable after 5 years from issuance.

### **4. BANK'S CAPITAL ADEQUACY**

ANB has established Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Committee (ICAAC) with the mandate to monitor and ensure that the bank has adequate capital to support all the risks inherent in its current and future business plans.

ANB's capital adequacy process *inter-alia* includes identification and assessment of all types of material risks, and ensures that besides having enough capital to cover these risks, adequate policies, processes and internal controls are in place to manage these risks in a timely manner. ANB's capital requirements are driven by its specific risk profile and impacts its portfolio composition and financial position. While ANB has adhered to the Pillar-I capital calculation methodologies under the Standardized Approaches, as per the guidelines issued by SAMA, it has developed its own methodologies for assessing and allocating capital for Pillar-II risks. At the same time, various stress-testing scenarios are applied to arrive at the stressed capital ratios, with a view to ensure that ANB remains adequately capitalized under stressed conditions during economic down-turns.

As a prudent measure, ANB intends to operate at a certain percentage over and above the minimum capital adequacy requirements of 8% (as stipulated by SAMA), for Pillar-I and II risks, calculated on both Tier 1 & 2 capital. Target and trigger mechanisms are in place to ensure immediate corrective actions, once trigger point is reached, either through decrease in assets/risk profile and/or increase in capital.

### **5. BANK'S RISK MANAGEMENT**

Bank has an independent Risk Management Group, which reports directly to the Managing Director. The Group is responsible for overall enhancement of the risk culture inside the bank through encouraging open communication with other business/supporting units and developing techniques in alignment with best practices for risk management as well as in compliance with local regulatory requirements.

Risk Management Group has the following four major Departments:

1. Credit Risk
2. Market Risk
3. Operational Risk
4. Business Continuity Management

## **5.1 Credit Risk**

Credit Risk Department manages the credit exposures arising principally from lending activities. Such lending activities may include loans, advances as well as exposures arising from off-balance sheet financing instruments such as commitments, guarantees and letters of credit.

### **5.1.1 Strategies and Processes**

Credit Risk policies and procedures are established to provide control on credit risk portfolios through periodic assessment of the credit worthiness of obligors, quantifying maximum permissible exposure to specific obligor and continuous monitoring of individual exposures and portfolios.

The Credit Risk policy of the bank is designed to ensure clear recognition of credit risk management strategies and objectives, which include:

- Strengthening and enhancing bank's ability to measure and mitigate credit risks on pre-emptive basis to minimize credit losses.
- Strengthening and enhancing bank's systems and procedures for early problem recognition.
- Strengthening and enhancing credit portfolio management process.
- Compliance with local regulatory requirement and industry's best practices for credit risk management.

The bank's Credit Risk policy addresses all functions and activities related to the credit lending process, starting from defining the minimum required information for assessing obligor credit worthiness and ending with clear risk-based approval authority mechanism.

### **5.1.2 Structure & Organization**

An independent Credit Risk Department, part of Risk Management Group, is responsible for Policy formulation and Portfolio management for all type of credit risks undertaken by the bank. Furthermore, Credit Group comprising of Credit Review and Credit Administration & Control (CAC) departments has also been established. The Credit Review department has specialized teams for Corporate/Commercial and Retail business units, and are responsible for conducting independent financial analysis and appraisals of Credit proposals, submitted by the respective business units.

ANB has a centralized credit approval process and follows the philosophy of joint approval authority. The approval authorities are directly linked to obligors' risk rating, tenor/type of the facility and

obligor's past track record. Based on afore-mentioned factors, there are three main layers of approval authorities, and the highest credit authority is vested in the Executive committee, having five Board members, including MD, as its members. The second level of credit approval authority is vested in the Senior Credit Committee, which comprises of MD, Head of Credit Group and four other senior managers of the bank. The third layer consists of the four levels of approval authorities, which draws its members from the business units and the Credit Group.

CAC is responsible for ongoing administration of the credit portfolio, which inter-alia includes limit monitoring, disbursement authorization, collateral coverage & monitoring; compliance with terms of approval, Preparation, maintenance and custody of collateral security documentation, credit checking and follow up on credit irregularities.

### 5.1.3 Risk Measurement & Reporting System

The bank's loan portfolio can be broadly divided into the following two categories:

#### A) **Corporate and Commercial Loans Portfolio:**

Credit Risk tracks trends and identifies weaknesses in the quality of corporate and commercial loans portfolio by employing:

- A uniform obligor & facility risk rating system to track the quality of obligor and risk assessment of facilities.
- Periodic reviews and reporting of aggregate statistics on asset diversification and credit quality for key segments of the portfolio.

**Rating system** is established with the objective to:

- place the responsibility on business units to regularly evaluate credit risk on exposures and identify problems within their portfolios;
- establish early warning signals for detecting deterioration in credit quality;
- set standard for business units to submit their inputs on problematic exposures;
- provide guidelines to respond and take remedial actions as soon as deterioration in credit quality is detected.

The bank classifies its exposures into 10 risk categories, of which 7 are for performing obligors and 3 are for non-performing obligors.

**Periodic reviews & reporting standards** are established to monitor Corporate and Commercial credit portfolio quality and diversification. Monthly and quarterly reports are prepared by Credit Risk covering the following:

- Total possible exposure and actual outstanding amount;
- Amount and percentage of exposure outstanding in each risk classification grade;
- Amount of losses charged-off;

- Obligors' exposure migration across risk grades from one period to another;
- Overall portfolio risk grade by Region/Business units.

B) **Consumer Assets Loans Portfolio:**

The major part of Bank's consumer loans and credit card exposures are against salary assignments, and borrowers are employees of selective list of acceptable employers. The consumer loans' portfolio is driven by strict lending criteria in the form of minimum salary requirements, length of service and pre-specified Debt Service Ratio (DSR).

For credit cards, a scoring matrix based on "Application score card" is in place, whereby criteria such as, age, marital status, residency status, occupation, years in service, annual income, etc. are taken into consideration.

Periodic reviews & reporting mechanism is in place to monitor the Consumer assets loans portfolio quality and diversification, covering the following:

- Consumer Assets loans portfolio growth from one period to another.
- Consumer Assets loans portfolio distribution by employer.
- Consumer Assets loans portfolio distribution by delinquencies (days past due bucket wise).
- Amount of losses charged-off.

5.1.4 **Hedging and Mitigants**

Although collaterals and securities are always desirable, being an effective means of reducing risk and enhancing credit quality, however the credit risk policy does not encourage granting credit exposures solely based on collaterals. Collaterals are viewed as a secondary source of repayment or way out in the event that the customer is facing difficulty in repaying the granted credit from its own cash flows. The Bank's policy is that credit facilities should always be able to stand on their own (successful repayment from cash flow from operations) without relying on the collateral as the primary source of repayment.

The Bank's policy is to consider a credit exposure secured if it is fully supported by tangible collateral/security and in accordance with minimum requirement in terms of coverage ratios as detailed under:

<b><u>Type of tangible Collateral Security</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum collateral required</u></b>
Cash Margin	100% of the facility limit
Bank Guarantees	100% of the facility limit
Pledged shares: Corporate/Commercial	150% of the facility limit
Pledged shares: Trading customers	200% of the facility limit
Transfer of Title Deeds	200% of the facility limit

All collaterals and securities are evaluated periodically to ensure that the collateral / security market value against credit exposures are in line with the stipulated coverage ratios. ANB has identified a selective list of companies based on strict criteria, whose shares are accepted as collateral. For Real Estate properties offered to the bank as collateral, the security must be appraised by accredited real estate offices appointed by the bank prior to giving any acceptance/commitment to the borrower.

As for Bank Guarantees held as collateral, it should meet strict criteria for acceptance, which includes being unconditional & irrevocable, issued by a bank acceptable to ANB.

As a matter of policy all collaterals should be in the same currency as the underlying credit exposure. Exceptions are made on case-by-case basis with appropriate justification and mitigants.

## **5.2 MARKET RISK**

The primary objective of ANB's market risk management function is to provide a coherent policy and operating framework for a strong bank wide management of market risk and liquidity risk.

### **5.2.1 Strategies and Processes**

The board approves the market risk appetite, in terms of limits, for all types of market risks including foreign currency risk, interest rate risk and equity risk. These limits are either based on notional amount, sensitivity and/or VaR (Value at Risk). The board has also approved a comprehensive corporate governance framework for market risk which includes market risk policy manual that provides guidance to identify, measure and monitor the bank's exposure to market risk.

Liquidity management policy and liquidity limits ensure that liquidity is maintained at sufficient levels to support operations and meet payment demands even under stressed conditions that might arise with a sudden change in the market environment.

### **5.2.2. Structure & Organization**

Market risk and Liquidity risk functions are overseen by two senior management committees - Asset Liability Committee (ALCO) and Market Risk Policy Committee (MRPC), both are headed by MD as the Chairman. Broadly speaking, ALCO deals with bank-wide market risk issues as opposed to MRPC, which deals with Treasury specific issues. ALCO meets on a regular basis to discuss the risk exposures vis-à-vis the prevailing market conditions and sets guidelines to manage these risks within the risk appetite set by the board. Market risk unit, which is independent of the business function, monitors all limits and provides monthly market risk reports to ALCO and MRPC members.

### **5.2.3. Scope and Nature of Reporting System**

Daily Risk Report is provided to Senior Management that covers the trading activity; a monthly report is prepared for ALCO and MRPC members that covers market risk, liquidity risk and investment portfolio

analysis. Stress testing for interest rate risk, foreign exchange risk and liquidity risk is conducted on a monthly basis and results are presented to ALCO members for their review. A detailed market risk review is submitted to the Board and Audit Committee on a quarterly basis highlighting major changes and developments during the quarter.

#### **5.2.4 Hedging and Mitigants**

Bank has implemented a hedging policy document, in accordance with the International Accounting Standards. Interest rate derivatives instruments, mainly interest rate swaps are used to hedge specific interest rate exposures and to keep the interest rate mismatches within limits. The bank also uses currency swap to hedge specific positions in foreign currencies, when necessary. Effectiveness of all hedges is regularly monitored throughout their term.

### **5.3 Operational Risk Management**

Operational risk is an integral part of ANB's business. ANB defines Operational Risk as the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or external events. Operational risk includes legal risk, but excludes strategic and reputational risk.

#### **5.3.1 Strategies & Processes**

The operational risk management objectives support ANB's vision through efficient and effective operational processes. Operational risk management aims to:

- Develop a common understanding of Operational Risk across the Bank, so as to assess exposure of businesses with respect to operational risk and take appropriate actions.
- Ensure that there is clear accountability, responsibility and adherence to best practices for management and mitigation of operational risk.
- Help the Business Units to improve internal controls, thereby reducing the probability and potential impact of operational risk losses.
- Minimize losses and customer complaints due to failures in processes.

#### **5.3.2 Structure & Organization**

ANB monitors its operational risks through an Operational Risk Management (ORM) framework that defines roles and responsibilities for managing and reporting operational risk.

The governance framework includes Board and Senior Management oversight, risk reporting, escalation and independence of the Operational Risk function. The governance structure has been formed to support the effective management of the ORM functions carried out across the Bank. The Bank has established the Operational Risk Steering Committee (ORSC) to oversee the activities of Operational Risk. To ensure that highest level of governance is maintained, Internal Audit Division conducts independent assessment and assurance of the activities carried out and reports directly to the Audit Committee of the Bank.

### **5.3.3 Measurement & Reporting System**

ANB has established Control and Risk Self Assessment (CRSA) framework to identify the Operational Risks that may arise from Business strategy, objectives, products & activities, and to evaluate the effectiveness of controls over those risks, tested and monitored by the business units on a regular basis. The consolidated assessment results are benchmarked with pre-defined risk appetite/acceptable level and appropriate action plans are taken to strengthen the control environment. Historical internal loss events and internal audit issues support the completeness and accuracy of the CRSA. An independent review and challenge process also assists in ensuring completeness, accuracy and consistency across ANB.

The goal of operational risk reporting is mainly to spread awareness of operational risk within the bank. Regular reporting of pertinent information to Operational Risk Steering Committee (ORSC) / Senior Management supports proactive management of operational risk and helps in identifying problem areas, putting in place corrective action plans and monitoring of outstanding issues.

### **5.3.4 Hedging & Mitigants**

ANB's Loss data management system allows collection and analyzing of loss events (actual and potential), identifies new risks or control weaknesses that caused the operational loss, escalating them to appropriate levels of management and to ORSC. The mechanism aims at minimizing any financial consequences of the events and addressing the root causes for refining the control mechanism to reduce re-occurrence of similar losses in future.

## **5.4 Business Continuity Management**

The mission of Business Continuity Management (BCM) is to plan for the Bank continuing to function as a viable business entity, during a disaster or serious business disruption, and providing for the orderly restoration of essential business services, at the earliest possible time.

BCM achieves this objective by conducting business impact analysis, working with all essential business and support units within the Head Office to identify the impact of disruptions and to prioritize the critical business processes. BCM has developed recovery plans for all critical business processes, defining the level of recovery and resumption service to be offered during a crisis, which has already been tested. A Crisis Management plan has also been developed to define crisis invocation procedures and the roles / responsibilities of crisis management teams.

## **6. BANK'S CREDIT EXPOSURES**

### **6.1 Definition of Past Due**

Exposures that are not settled on their due date are classified as "Past Due" and reflected on the bank's books the following day. The appearance of a loan on the past due list on the day after its due date, by itself, does not imply that there is a problematic credit, as the business units often successfully prompt the customers to settle the amounts within a few days.

## 6.2 Definition of Impaired Assets:

In determining whether an exposure has become impaired, the Bank makes judgments as to whether there is any observable data indicating that there is a decrease in the estimated future cash flows. This evidence may include an indication that there has been an adverse change in the payment status of borrowers. Management uses estimates based on historical loss experience for loans with similar credit risk characteristics, when estimating the cash flows. The methodology and assumptions used for estimating both the amount and the timing of future cash flows are reviewed regularly to reduce any differences between loss estimates and actual loss experience.

## 6.3 Definition of Non Performing Assets:

Exposures are classified as Non-Performing and are placed on the non-accrual status in the following cases:

- The principal of loan or interest payment remains past due more than 90 days after its due date.
- The balance of an overdraft account remains dormant for more than 180 days.

The Non-performing exposures migrate across the non-performing risk grades (Substandard, Doubtful, and Loss) according to their days past due and/or deterioration in credit quality.

## 6.4 Approaches for Specific & General Provisions:

As per Bank's provisioning policy, provisions are estimated depending on risk rating, type of collateral held and expected future recovery.

### I. Provisions for Corporate & Commercial portfolio:

The amount of provisions is subject to the following guidelines:

Risk Rating	Grade Name	Provisioning
7	Watch-List	Case by Case basis
8	Substandard	Minimum of 25% of net exposure
9	Doubtful	Minimum of 50% of net exposure
10	Loss	100% of the net exposure

The Specific provisions are made against the impaired exposures by comparing the present value of expected cash flows with its current carrying amount based on the criteria prescribed by International Accounting Standards - IAS 39.

### II. Provisions for Consumer Loans & Credit Cards loans portfolio:

The specific provisions are made against the impaired exposures based on the criteria of Days Past Due (DPD), as per the below table:

Buckets	Days Past Due (DPD)	Provisioning (% of total bucket)
1	1 - 30 days	0%
2	31 - 60 days	15%
3	61 - 90 days	25%
4	91 - 120 days	50%
5	121 - 150 days	75%
6	151 - 180 days	100%
7	More than 180 days	Write - Off

### **III. General Provisions:**

In addition to specific allowances against individual borrowers, the Bank also makes a collective impairment allowance against exposures which, although not specifically identified as requiring a specific allowance, have a higher risk of default than when it was originally granted. This takes into consideration factors such as any deterioration in country risk, industry, and technological obsolescence, as well as identified structural weaknesses or deterioration in cash flows.

## **7. EXTERNAL CREDIT ASSESSMENT INSTITUTIONS (ECAIs) USED**

As per the guidelines provided by SAMA, ANB is using i) Moody's, ii) Standard & Poor's, and iii) Fitch for assigning Risk Weight and calculating Risk Weighted Assets (RWAs) under the Standardized Approach. Obligors, which are not rated by any of these three ECAIs are considered as "un-rated". Only the solicited ratings from the eligible ECAIs are being used for capital adequacy calculations.

ANB is using Basel-II standardized approach to calculate capital charge for credit risk. For calculating Credit Risk Mitigation, ANB is using simple approach. The calculation methodologies are based on the guidelines specified by SAMA.

## **8. CREDIT RISK MITIGATION: DISCLOSURES FOR STANDARDIZED AND IRB APPROACHES**

ANB has been using following types of collateral for Credit Risk Mitigation (CRM) purposes under the Standardized Approach, as per SAMA guidelines:

- **Financial Collateral**

The bank takes only cash as financial collateral for mitigation purpose as per Basel-II Simple Credit Risk Mitigation Approach.

- **Guarantees as collateral:**

The bank takes guarantees issued by other banks as a credit risk mitigant for its exposures. In such cases, a simple substitution of the risk weight is applied as per Basel-II Simple Credit Risk Mitigation Approach. The bank has limit structure in place for managing exposure on each bank, which mitigates the concentration risk while using guarantees as eligible collateral.

## **9. COUNTERPARTY CREDIT RISK**

### **9.1 Objective and Policies**

The primary objective of counterparty credit risk management function is to effectively identify, measure and manage all derivatives related counterparty exposures through regular review of counterparty limits and daily monitoring of exposures vs. limits. Comprehensive counterparty credit risk policies are set out in the bank's Credit Policy Manual.

### **9.2 Strategy and Process:**

Limits for all banking counterparties are approved by Senior Credit Committee based on guidelines approved by the executive committee of the board, these guidelines are detailed in the bank's Credit Policy Manual. With regard to corporate customers, derivative products are offered only to selective large corporate customers with a demonstrated need to employ these products to manage the financial risks in their businesses.

### **9.3 Structure and Organization**

Treasury Group manages day-to-day counterparty exposures for derivatives within the limits set by the Senior Credit Committee. Credit Control Department monitors and controls the exposures independently so that the exposures remain within the approved limits.

### **9.4 Scope and Nature of Risk Measurement and Reporting Systems**

Bank has a well-defined credit equivalent calculation methodology in place for each type of Derivative Product.

Capital charge for Over the Counter (OTC) derivative products is calculated using the current exposure method. Under this method potential future exposure is calculated, applying SAMA recommended add-on factors and positive mark-to-market of the transactions.

## **10. MARKET RISK CAPITAL CALCULATION**

ANB maintains a low risk appetite for proprietary trading activity; as a result, trading activity is limited to FX Spots, FX Forwards, Plain vanilla interest rate derivatives and FX derivative instruments. The Bank uses standardized approach to calculate the capital charge for market risk in trading book and intends to move to Internal Model Approach after complying with the required qualitative and quantitative standards of SAMA.

### **10.1 Strategies and Processes**

Board approves the trading limits keeping in view the risk appetite of the bank and overall business strategy of the treasury group. All traded products are covered by individual product programs, which lay down product description, business strategy, target customers, risk management process, back office process and accounting process. The overall trading book limits as approved by the board includes:

- Volume limit
- VaR limit
- Sensitivity limit and
- Volatility limit

### **10.2 Structure and Organization**

The Head of Treasury Group is responsible to manage all trading activities on a day-to-day basis within the established trading limits and in accordance with the direction and guidance given by MRPC. Treasury is responsible to identify and recommend to MRPC new trading strategies in specific instruments and target markets that are in accordance with the Bank's risk appetite.

Market Risk Department is responsible for monitoring and comparing trading activity exposures to the board approved trading risk limits. All trading instruments are regularly marked-to-market by Market Risk Department.

## **11. OPERATIONAL RISK CAPITAL CALCULATIONS**

For the purpose of its capital computation under Basel II, ANB adopted the Alternative Standardized Approach (ASA). The methodology adopted by the Bank for the purpose of this calculation is in line with the guidelines prescribed by SAMA. Under ASA, the capital charge is computed by categorizing ANB's activities into 8 business lines (as defined by the Basel II framework) and multiplying the business line's twelve quarters' average gross income by a pre-defined beta factor, which is same as for the Standardized Approach except for two business lines – retail banking and commercial banking. For these business lines, Loans and Advances (LARB) – multiplied by a fixed factor 'm' (0.035) – replaces gross income as the exposure indicator, and the betas aggregated for both business lines using a beta of 15%.

## **12. EQUITIES (BANKING BOOK POSITIONS)**

### **12.1 Strategies and Processes**

The bank's equity exposure is diversified across listed local stocks of different industry sectors and mutual funds. The portfolio is managed with a conservative approach to achieve a stable and medium to long term return on capital with a low risk profile. The bank has also made Strategic Equity Investments in affiliates and subsidiaries to achieve diversification of revenue streams and capitalize on the opportunities available in various sectors including equipment leasing, housing and insurance.

### **12.2 Structure and Organization**

Treasury Group is responsible for day-to-day management of equity investment activities within the established investment management policies, limits and regulatory requirements in the Kingdom, governing the acquisition of securities. Investments in affiliates and subsidiaries are regularly reviewed and monitored by a dedicated strategic investment unit of the bank.

### **12.3 Scope and Nature of Risk Reporting and/or Measurement Systems**

A detailed investment report is submitted to ALCO and MRPC on a monthly basis. The report covers details of securities held, their market value, and securities sold/ bought during the month. Valuation for the equity exposures are done based on quoted market price, whereas strategic equity investments are held at book value.

## **13. BANKING BOOK INTEREST RATE RISK**

Interest rate risk in the banking book mainly arises from mismatches in re-pricing dates of interest sensitive assets and liabilities. ANB's policy is to achieve a balance between profitability from banking activities and minimizing risk to earnings and capital from changes in interest rates. The Bank's exposure to interest rate risk is managed with the objective that profits will not be unduly impacted by the volatility of the interest rates.

### **13.1 Risk Management and Monitoring Process**

The board approves the acceptable level of interest rate risk in the banking book by setting a limit on interest rate gaps by maturity buckets together with other limits. Treasury Group is responsible for day-to-day management of interest rate risk under the guidance provided by ALCO. Treasury Group continuously monitors the changes in financial markets leading to interest rate movements. Based on future outlook, Treasury takes appropriate interest rate exposures or hedges the existing exposures if needed. Interest rate derivatives (mainly interest rate swaps) are used to hedge interest rate exposure of the bank. Interest rate limits are independently monitored by Market Risk Department of Risk Management Group and reported to ALCO as and when needed or at least on a monthly basis.

### **13.2 Scope and Nature of Risk Reporting and/or Measurement Systems**

To manage the Bank's interest rate risk exposure, ALCO uses the following reports:

- Interest rate gap Analysis
- VaR analysis
- Interest rate stress testing
- Impact of rate movements on investment portfolio

ALCO approves the key assumptions underlying the reports. These are documented clearly in a way that their rationale can be fully understood. This particularly applies to assumptions used in assessing the interest rate sensitivity of complex instruments, such as those with embedded options, and those with uncertain maturities, such as core deposits.

Interest rate risk in the banking book, to a large extent, is offset by the Core Non term funds, which include non-interest bearing deposits (NIBs) and Equity. To reflect this in the aggregate interest rate risk position of the Bank, Core Non term funds are appropriately allocated to different maturity buckets.