RATING REPORT

HBL Microfinance Bank Limited

(Formerly The First MicroFinanceBank Limited)

REPORT DATE:

April 30th, 2024

RATING ANALYSTS:

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| RATING DETAILS | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| | Latest Rating Previous Rating | | | | | | | |
| | Long- | Short- | Long- | Short- | | | | |
| Rating Category | term | term | term | term | | | | |
| Entity | A+ | A-1 | A+ | A-1 | | | | |
| Rating Outlook | Sta | Stable | | ıble | | | | |
| Rating Action | Reaffirmed | | Reaffirmed | | | | | |
| Rating Date | April 3 | 30th, '24 | April 2 | 28th, '23 | | | | |

| COMPANY INFORMATION | |
|---|--|
| Incorporated in 2001 | External auditors: KPMG Taseer Hadi & Co. Chartered Accountants Islamabad |
| Public Limited Unlisted Company | Chairman of the Board: Mr. Rayomond Kotwal President & CEO: Mr. Muhammad Amir Khan |
| Key Shareholders (with stake 5% or more at end-December'2023: | e) |
| Habib Bank Limited (HBL): 79.92% | |
| Aga Khan Agency for Microfinance (AKAM): 12 | 2.06% |
| Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP): | 4.46% |

APPLICABLE METHODOLOGY(IES)

VIS Entity Rating Criteria: Micro Finance Banks

https://docs.vis.com.pk/docs/MicroFinance-Oct-2023.pdf

VIS Rating Scale

https://docs.vis.com.pk/docs/VISRatingScales.pdf

HBL Microfinance Bank Limited

OVERVIEW OF THE INSTITUTION

RATING RATIONALE

HBL Microfinance Bank Ltd. (HBL MfB), was established in 2002 as a nationwide microfinance bank, licensed by the State Bank of Pakistan. Currently, HBL has a majority share-holding of 79.92% in HBL MfB. The Bank operates through a network of 225 business locations at end Dec'23.

Profile of Chairman

Mr. Rayomond Kotwal has over three decades of experience, having worked in senior finance roles. Mr. Kotwal also serves on the Boards of Habib Allied Holdings Limited - UK, HBL Bank - UK, and HBL Management Limited, and is also a Member of the Board of Trustees of HBLEmployee Funds and HBL Foundation.

Profile of CEO

Mr. Muhammad Amir Khan brings over 30 years of extensive experience in consumer and commercial banking. He has also served as the CEO of Mobilink Microfinance Bank where he played an instrumental role in setting up the new microfinance bank.

Rating Driver:

The ratings assigned to HBL MfB incorporates its strong ownership profile, as majority shareholding is vested with Habib Bank Limited (HBL) and the Aga Khan Development Network, with the latter possessing several years of multijurisdictional experience in microfinance. The ratings also take into account the favorable asset quality indicators, in a challenging economic environment. While there was a minor increase in gross infection, provision coverage increased concurrently and incremental infection has dropped. Investment portfolio, primarily comprising government securities, with high proportion of floating rate securities, also supports the bank credit and market risk profile. Downside risk is posed by weak economic indicators, especially inflation, which will continue to stress microcredit borrowers' repayment ability, while keeping operating costs high. Spreads have narrowed in the past two years, however these are likely to recover as the portfolio is re-priced and further rate increases are not anticipated. Given a relatively longer portfolio duration, asset re-pricing trends maybe slower than peers. Nevertheless, sound asset quality and continued growth will ensure overall profitability improves in 2024.

Certain large related party deposits may, mitigate the otherwise high withdrawal risks potentially arising from significant concentration. Ready access to liquidity from parent Bank also supports overall liquidity risk profile. The Bank's capital adequacy ratio remains compliant with the minimum regulatory requirement, although the cushion remains marginal, despite the equity injection in 2022 and the issuance of subordinated debt in 2023. Demonstrated through an approval of an equity injection by the Parent in Apr'24, of up to Rs. 6.0b in the Bank and expected further sponsor support in future, as well as consistent track record of healthy profitability mitigates any concerns. Going forward, ratings will be contingent upon a largely maintained asset quality profile, given the still stressed economic climate in the country.

Auditor's Opinion

KPMG Taseer Hadi & Co. Chartered Accountants has provided an unqualified and unmodified opinion, affirming that the Company's financial statements comply with accounting standards and accurately portray the Company's financial position as of December 2023.

About the Company:

HBL Microfinance Bank Ltd. ('HBL MfB' or the 'Bank'), formerly The First Microfinance Bank Ltd., Pakistan (FMfB) was incorporated in November 2001 as a public limited company under the Companies Ordinance, 1984. HBL MfB was established in February 2002 after receiving certificate of commencement of business as a nation-wide microfinance bank, licensed by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), The Bank was created through a structured transformation of the credit and savings section of the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) with the mission to respond to poverty and contribute to the social and economic well-being of the society by providing opportunities to under-privileged households.

HBL MfB operates through 225 (Dec'22: 217) business locations, including branches and permanent booths. Currently, Habib Bank Limited (HBL) holds a majority shareholding in HBL MfB. In CY23, HBL MfB issued 100,000,000 right shares at the rate of Rs. 10 per share, resulting in an increase of HBL's shareholding to 79.92% (Dec'22: 76.42%) as of Dec'23.

Key Rating Drivers:

Experienced Board and Management Team

At Dec'23, the Board of Directors (BoD) at HBL MfB comprises eight members, including Chairman and President/CEO. The BoD is chaired by Rayomond Kotwal with over three decades of experience, having worked in senior roles in financial and corporate sector in Pakistan. Composition of the BoD is tabulated below:

| Name | Position |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. Rayomond Kotwal | Chairperson |
| Ms. Rashna Minwalla | Independent Director |
| Mr. Zahir Riaz | Independent Director |
| Mr. Abrar Ahmed Mir | Director |
| Ms. Maya Inayat Ismail | Director |
| Ms. Sobia Chughtai | Director |
| Mr. Tsuyoshi Hara | Director |
| Mr. Muhammad Amir Khan | President/CEO |

During CY23, four BoD meetings took place with satisfactory attendance of BoD members. Seven BoD committees are operating to maintain effective oversight - namely Board Audit Committee (BAC), Human Resource Committee (HRC), Board Risk and Compliance Committee (BRCC), Financial Inclusion Committee (FIC), Information Technology Committee (ITC), Board Remuneration Committee (BRC) and Rebranding Committee (RC).

During the outgoing year, several changes were noted in key senior management roles, with the Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Compliance Officer having been replaced, with the latter assignment being temporary. While all changes have been reported to be in the normal course of business, and the sector is characterized by high turnover, stability of the team is important for uninterrupted implementation of the business strategy.

Productivity Analysis and Branch Network

| <u>PRODUCTIVITY</u> | CY21 | CY22 | CY23 |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| No of loan Officers | 1,905 | 1,826 | 1,747 |
| No. of branches | 213 | 217 | 225 |
| No of active Borrowers | 554,520 | 514,442 | 477,389 |
| LOs/ Branch | 8 | 8 | 7 |
| Active Borrowers/ LO | 291 | 281 | 273 |
| Active Borrowers/ Branch | 2,603 | 2,370 | 2,121 |
| Average Loan Size (Rs.) | 106,839.5 | 170,768.6 | 211,425.6 |

The industry continues to face a significant challenge due to the high attrition rate among loan officers (LOs). This high turnover rate presents difficulties in portfolio management, creates training and skill gaps, and places an increased burden on existing staff. Over the past three years, HBL MfB also faced a decline in the total number of Loan Officers (LOs) employed, with a decrease of 4.33% (CY22: 4.15%) in CY23, along with a decline in the number of active borrowers over the same period. Conversely, there has been growth in the number of branches, with 8 new branches commencing operations in CY23 (CY22: 4), resulting in decline in active borrower per branch as well as borrowers per LO. The decrease in the number of active borrowers can be attributed to several factors. Firstly, there is a decline in demand from individuals seeking loans, mainly due to their reduced repayment capacity amidst deteriorating economic conditions, and the rising benchmark rate. Additionally, the Bank has undertaken a strategic shift in its lending approach, focusing on lending to fewer but more creditworthy borrowers, with a significant increase in the average loan size since CY21. Therefore, a notable uptick in the Gross Loan Portfolio (GLP) has been noted, alongside decreasing borrowers, and coinciding with the inflationary pressures in the economy, necessitating larger loan amounts to meet borrower requirements adequately.

Microcredit Portfolio and Risk Segregations

The Bank's GLP experienced significant growth over the last three years, reaching Rs. 100.9b (Dec'22: Rs. 87.9b) by end of Dec'23, largely on target of Rs. 100.7b. Loan disbursements amounted to Rs. 64.3b (CY22: Rs. 71.4b), while loan recoveries amounted to Rs. 49.4b (CY22: Rs. 40.3b). HBL MfB aims to conclude CY24 with a conventional micro-credit portfolio of Rs. 115.4b.

Dominant products among the suite of services are Housing Finance, which has received impetus in recent periods, with the highest proportion in the first year of the loan cycle. While livestock finance has the highest proportion of mature loans in year 3 or more, its dominance in the portfolio is receding on a timeline, with a relatively higher PAR. Livestock Agriculture and Housing segments, collectively account for 87.4% of the total portfolio. Loans against government markup subsidy schemes for housing finance under Mera Pakistan Mera Ghar and financing schemes for farmers in rain/flood affected areas under the Kissan package 2022 decreased to Rs. 6.2b(Dec'22: Rs. 6.6b).

| SEGMENTS (Rs. in M) | CY21 | % | CY22 | % | CY23 | 0/0 |
|------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Livestock | 23,034 | 38.9% | 29,823 | 33.9% | 36,303 | 36.0% |
| Agriculture | 10,264 | 17.3% | 15,152 | 17.2% | 17,523 | 17.4% |
| Micro-enterprise | 14,814 | 25.0% | 13,721 | 15.6% | 11,938 | 11.8% |
| Housing | 10,643 | 18.0% | 28,381 | 32.3% | 34,348 | 34.0% |
| General purpose/Others | 489 | 0.8% | 775 | 0.9% | 820 | 0.8% |
| Total | 59, | 245 | 87, | 851 | 100 | ,932 |

In order to safeguard portfolio and avoid asset quality weakening amid the present economic difficulties, portfolio growth is expected to be driven by mortgaged based business under Housing segment along with property/agriculture passbook backed lending under agriculture & livestock products. Within the Housing and Livestock segments, products with guaranteed monthly cash-flow and EMI based repayment mode were prioritized by the Bank.

| EMI VS BULLET (Rs. in M) | CY21 | % | CY22 | % | CY23 | % |
|--------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| EMI | 38,729 | 65.4% | 62,554 | 71.2% | 76,219 | 75.5% |
| Bullet | 20,516 | 34.6% | 25,296 | 28.8% | 24,713 | 24.5% |
| Total | 59, | ,245 | 87, | 851 | 100 | ,932 |

The share of EMI increased to 75.5% (CY22: 71.2%), whereas the proportion of bullet loans decreased to 24.5% (CY22: 28.8%) by end of CY23. This is in line with the management plan to increase the proportion of EMI loans to 75% by end of CY23. The higher proportion of EMI is a factor of increased contribution of Housing loans to GLP entailing monthly installments. Going forward, the management plans to increase the proportion of EMI loans by end of CY'24 owing to high repayment risk associated with bullet lending, especially given the prevailing economic downturn.

| SECURED VS UNSECURED (Rs. in M) | CY21 | % | CY22 | % | CY23 | % |
|---------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Secured Loans | 21,554 | 36.4% | 38,004 | 43.3% | 51,489 | 51.0% |
| Unsecured Loans | 37,691 | 63.6% | 49,846 | 56.7% | 49,443 | 49.0% |
| Total | 59, | 245 | 87, | 850 | 100 | ,932 |

The proportion of secured loans also increased during the outgoing year; the same was largely a function of increased focus on housing portfolio.

| GROUP VS INDIVIDUAL (Rs. in M) | CY21 | 0/0 | CY22 | % | CY23 | % |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Group Based | 4,565 | 7.7% | 2,904 | 3.3% | 1,042 | 1.0% |
| Individual | 54,680 | 92.3% | 84,947 | 96.7% | 99,890 | 99.0% |
| Total | 59, | ,245 | 87, | 851 | 100, | 932 |

The management continued its policy of shifting from group-based loans to individual loans with target of keeping the group loan proportion lower than 5% of the total loan portfolio. In line with materialization of the target, the proportion of group loans reduced to 1.0% (CY22: 3.3%) of overall GLP. The Bank has curtailed group lending to mitigate associated enhanced credit risk.

| SIZE-WISE COMPOSITION (Rs. in M) | CY21 | 0/0 | CY22 | 0/0 | CY23 | 0/0 |
|----------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Upto Rs. 25,000 | 1,010 | 1.7% | 131 | 0.1% | 51 | 0.1% |
| Rs. 25,000 - Rs. 50,000 | 5,395 | 9.1% | 1,904 | 2.2% | 1,102 | 1.1% |
| Rs. 50,001-Rs. 75,000 | 7,172 | 12.1% | 4,334 | 4.9% | 2,512 | 2.5% |
| Rs. 75,001-Rs. 100,000 | 9,011 | 15.2% | 9,337 | 10.6% | 6,103 | 6.0% |
| Rs. 100,000 and Above | 36,657 | 61.9% | 72,145 | 82.1% | 91,164 | 90.3% |
| Total as of Dec'23 | 59, | 245 | 87, | 851 | 100, | ,932 |

Management estimated that the average term of the outstanding loan portfolio stood at 26.3 months (Dec'22: 16.1 months) based on the remaining average tenure of outstanding loans as of Dec'23. The proportion of loan sizes ranging from Rs. 100,000 and above experienced a notable surge within the total portfolio. This is in line with the management strategy of migrating clients to higher ticket size loans, as well as growth through larger ticket size enterprise and housing loans. This increase in average loan size over time can also be attributed to the SBP's adjustment of the maximum regulatory credit limits for housing and enterprise loans, from Rs. 1.0mn to Rs. 3.0mn.

Asset Quality Indicators

| PORTFOLIO AT RISK RATIO (Rs. in M) | CY22 | PAR % | CY23 | PAR % |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-------|---------|-------|
| Normal and Watchlist | 85,709 | | 98,190 | |
| OAEM | 630 | 0.72% | 694 | 0.69% |
| Sub-Standard | 372 | 0.42% | 415 | 0.41% |
| Doubtful | 608 | 0.69% | 813 | 0.81% |
| Loss | 531 | 0.60% | 820 | 0.81% |
| Gross Advances and PAR | 87,850 | 2.44% | 100,932 | 2.72% |

As of Dec'23, 97.3% (Dec'22: 97.6%) of GLP is considered good while the rest is categorized as doubtful. Non-performance has risen, though marginally, as evidenced by an uptick in the Portfolio at Risk Ratio across all categories, notably Loss category.

| PRODUCTS | Outstanding loans (Rs. in M) | % | PAR | Loan cycle 1 | Loan cycle 2 | Loan cycle 3 |
|-------------------|------------------------------|-------|------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Housing Finance | 25,369 | 25.1% | 0.9% | 20,847 | 9,366 | 10,862 |
| Livestock Finance | 24,082 | 23.9% | 4.6% | 18,624 | 17,646 | 161,826 |
| Roshanzar Plus | 15,385 | 15.2% | 2.2% | 10,234 | 6,195 | 7,914 |
| Roshanzar | 9,666 | 9.6% | 0.8% | 3,570 | 1,610 | 1,867 |
| Premium | | | | | | |
| Pension Loan | 8,281 | 8.2% | 1.6% | 21,030 | 12,288 | 21,098 |

On a similar note, non-performing Loans (NPLs) decreased as at Dec'22, however then witnessed an increase totaling Rs. 2.7b (Dec'22: Rs. 2.1b) as at Dec'23. Consequently, gross infection rate deteriorated slightly to 2.7% (CY22: 2.4%), while the net infection rate remained stable at 1.4% (CY22: 1.4%) owing to commensurate provisioning. The advances written off against provisions and bad debt directly charged to profit & loss were reported lower at the end of CY23, amounting to Rs. 1.8b (CY22: Rs. 2.7b)reflecting a reduction in new infection rate to 2.6% (CY22: 3.4%) by the end of CY23, and indicative of the rate of new loans becoming non-performing having slowed.

| | CY21 | CY22 | CY23 |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| NPLs (Rs. in M) | 2,331.7 | 2,141.7 | 2,742.5 |
| Gross Infection | 3.9% | 2.4% | 2.7% |
| Net Infection | 2.1% | 1.4% | 1.4% |
| Incremental Infection | 4.8% | 3.4% | 2.6% |
| Specific Provisioning Coverage | 46.7% | 42.7% | 48.7% |
| Provisioning Coverage | 101.7% | 115.5% | 124.3% |
| Net NPLs/Tier 1 Equity | 14.4% | 10.9% | 12.1% |

At the end of Dec'23, Rescheduled Loans increased to Rs. 2b (Dec'22: Rs. 1.4b). This aligns with the State Bank of Pakistan's (SBP) extension of regulatory relief, which encouraged Microfinance Banks (MfBs) to reschedule/restructure loans of flood-affected borrowers for up to one year and extend fresh financing in flood-affected areas. Out of HBL MfB's 225 locations, 55 locations are situated in affected areas, declared as calamity-hit by the Government.

Provisioning coverages, both specific and total, increased during the outgoing year. The increase in general provision coverage reflects the conservative approach of the management. This led to an incremental general provision of. 1.1b (CY22: Rs. 0.7b) in addition to the statutory requirement of 1%, taking general provision coverage to over 2%. The rise in specific provision coverage is primarily attributable to the increase in Doubtful and Loss category exposures requiring higher provisions. The ratio of Net NPLs to tier-1 capital increased to 12.1% (CY22: 10.9%) as a result of the increase in NPLs by the end of CY23. Credit risk associated with the investment portfolio is deemed low, as government securities comprised 100.0% (Dec'22: 100.0%) of the investment portfolio as at the end of Dec'23, while bank placements were also maintained in institutions rated AA-/A1+ on an average.

Market Risk

HBL Microfinance Bank's investments includes only Federal Government Securities, with a significant emphasis on MTBs and PIBs, where PIBs comprise a dominant part. Within the total PIB portfolio, Rs. 3.9b (Dec'22: Rs. 2.6b) are Held to Maturity (HTM) at amortized cost, and immune to mark-to-market losses. However, the Available for Sale (AFS) PIBs' portfolio amounting to Rs. 13.5b, includes Rs. 2.6b fixed rate instruments. The deficit on revaluation of federal securities under AFS stood at Rs. 162.5m (CY22: Rs. 302.7m) in CY23. Compared to Dec'22, securities under Held For Trading (HFT) increased significantly to Rs. 5.8b (Dec'22: Nil) in MTBs and Rs. 1.4b (Dec'22: Nil) in PIBs, while the gain on revaluation of federal securities under HFT was recorded at Rs. 1.4m (CY22: -17.7m) at end of the CY23. To mitigate the risk associated with interest rate volatility, the Bank has taken steps such as investing in floating rate securities instead of fixed rate securities. Consequently, the proportion of floating rate PIBs increased to 80% (Dec'22: 65%), amounting to Rs. 15.4b (Dec'22: Rs. 8.8b) out of the total Rs. 18.9b at the end of Dec'23. Overall, the market risk stemming from the investment portfolio is relatively manageable, due to the substantial amount of floaters held.

Liquidity and Leverage Profile

By the end of Dec'23, the deposit base had expanded, continuing to serve as the primary funding source for the Bank. This growth was primarily due to a rise in individual deposits, which came to comprise 27.7% (Dec'22: 24.5%) of total deposits. Institutional deposits continued to dominate the depositor profile, mostly led by bank and FI deposits which remained the most sizable source at 43.6% (Dec'22: 44.1%) of total deposits. The high proportion of FI deposits, renders the funding base cost sensitive and vulnerable to withdrawal risk. This is also exemplified by depositors' concentration, with top 10 depositors accounting for 45.9% (CY22: 49.9%) of total deposits.

| (Rs. in M) | CY22 | 0/0 | CY23 | 0/0 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|
| Individual Depositors | 28,388.9 | 24.5% | 35,490.5 | 27.7% |
| Institutional Depositors: | 87,674.5 | 75.5% | 92,743.3 | 72.3% |
| - Corporates/Firms | 36,488.3 | 31.4% | 36,803.1 | 28.7% |
| - Banks and Financial Institutions | 51,186.2 | 44.1% | 55,940.2 | 43.6% |
| Total (In Rs. M) | 116,063.4 | | 128,233.7 | |

The Liquid Assets to Deposits and Borrowings (LADB) ratio experienced a decrease to 33.2% (CY22: 35.9%), as of Dec'23, reflecting the higher allocation of funds toward the micro-credit portfolio as part of the growth strategy implemented during the year. When viewed in the context of a concentrated funding base, liquidity risk is considered moderate; however the largest funding relationship is with a related party, which is expected to remain supportive of the Bank's liquidity risk profile. Moreover as one of the largest banks in the country, the Bank's sponsor is able and likely to provide liquidity support to HBL MfB on an as and when needed basis.

| (Rs. in M) | CY21 | CY22 | CY23 |
|---|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Liquid Assets | 44,105.8 | 44,790.7 | 45,673.0 |
| Deposits | 91,362.6 | 116,063.4 | 128,233.7 |
| Borrowing | 2,883.0 | 6,571.2 | 6,515.8 |
| Sub-Ordinated Debt | 2,000.0 | 2,000.0 | 2,825.0 |
| Liquid Assets to Deposits and Borrowings (LADB) | 45.8% | 35.9% | 33.2% |
| Advances to Deposits (ADR) | 64.8% | 75.7% | 78.7% |
| CA (%) | 6.4% | 6.5% | 6.3% |
| CASA (%) | 51.6% | 59.3% | 61.0% |
| Liquid Assets/ TA | 40.1% | 31.4% | 28.7% |

As of Dec'23, total borrowings experienced a marginal decrease. Borrowings from Banks and Financial Institutions declined to Rs. 4.7b (Dec'22: Rs. 6.6b). This reduction was partially offset by borrowing from the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), amounting to Rs. 1.8b (Dec'22: Nil). This included the Term Finance Facility aimed at disbursing funds to borrowers in flood-affected areas and easing liquidity constraints for microfinance borrowers.

Profitability Indictors

HBL MfB remained profitable though with lower net earnings at Rs. 0.4b (CY22: Rs. 1.2b) in CY23 due to narrower markup spreads, higher provisioning expenses, and increased administrative overheads. Similarly, the Operational Self-Sufficiency (OSS) ratio deteriorated over the year, reaching 101.9% (CY22: 107.4%) in CY23. This decline signifies a deficit between incremental recurring incomes over incremental recurring expenses, primarily driven by the uptick in administrative costs.

The markup earned on advances surged to Rs. 28.3b (CY22: Rs. 19.8 b) in CY23, primarily driven by quantum increase in performing advances, which was further supported by a higher yields on advances at 30.7% (CY22: 27.7%). Additionally, markup earned on Investments in Government Securities also rose to Rs. 3.9b (CY22: Rs. 2.3b) despite a decrease in the investment amount and also reflecting improved average yield on Investments in Government Securities, reaching 13.4% (CY22: 10.6%), owing to the rise in prevailing benchmark rates. Consequently, Return on Markup Bearing Assets increased to 26.8% (CY22: 22.7%). However, the cost of funding climbed at a higher pace to 17.2% (CY22: 12.4%) in CY23, since the proportion of deposits have increased in total funding and cost of deposits faced an uptick in CY23. This resulted in lower spreads at 9.7% (CY22: 10.3%), with net mark-up/interest income experiencing only marginal growth to Rs. 10.7b (CY22: Rs. 10.4b) in CY23. While non-markup income remained supportive of the revenue profile and trended up, the increase remained measured.

On the other hand, administrative expenses surged to Rs. 9.8b (CY22: Rs. 8.1b), which is reflective of inflationary impact on overheads, resulting in a decline in core profits for the year. Meanwhile, provision for NPLs also increased to Rs. 2.8b (CY22: Rs. 2.3b) for the year.

With expected asset losses on a decline and inflationary impacts likely to begin tapering off by the end of the year, in addition to the positive effects of ongoing re-pricing of assets, will likely rehabilitate spreads and overall profitability to levels similar to previous years..

Capitalization

The Tier-1/Total equity of the Bank slightly increased to Rs. 11.6b as of Dec'23 (Dec'22: Rs. 11.3b), primarily driven by increasing balances of unappropriated profit. Total Eligible Capital rose to Rs. 16.3b (Dec'22: Rs. 14.9b), primarily due to the issuance of Subordinated Debt Instruments amounting to Rs. 850m to support the Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR). In 2023, HBL MfB had received the approval of SBP to issue up to Rs. 1.5b (inclusive of green shoe option of Rs. 0.5b) unsecured and subordinated TFCs to support CAR as per the regulations of MfBs. The remaining portion has been received post year-end and will provide CAR of 15.5% as it is phased into eligible capital. With business growth, risk assets increased to Rs. 106.4b (Dec'22: Rs. 90.6b). Therefore, the Bank's CAR was reported at 15.3% (Dec'22: 16.4%) at the end of Dec'23, slightly above the minimum regulatory requirement of 15.0% for MfBs, although the cushion remains marginal.

Growth is likely to remain cautious in view of the challenging economic circumstances. Meanwhile our prognosis for improved earnings is expected to allow capital adequacy to remain sufficient in the near-term. Sponsor support may be relied upon if required.

HBL Microfinance Bank Limited (HBL MfB)

Annexure I

| FINANCIAL SUMMARY | (| amounts in PKR n | nillions) |
|--|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| BALANCE SHEET | Dec 31, 2021 | Dec 31, 2022 | Dec 31, 2023 |
| Cash and Bank Balances with SBP and NBP | 6,344.0 | 13,160.8 | 13,461.0 |
| Balances with other Banks and/NBFIs/MFBs | 24,032.2 | 1,235.3 | 4,658.5 |
| Net Investments | 13,729.6 | 30,394.6 | 27,553.5 |
| Net Advances | 56,872.4 | 85,376.6 | 97,524.6 |
| Other Assets | 5,009.4 | 7,039.3 | 10,522.7 |
| Total Assets | 110,020.6 | 142,525.8 | 159,374.8 |
| Total Deposits | 91,362.6 | 116,063.4 | 128,233.7 |
| Borrowings | 2,883.0 | 6,571.2 | 6,515.8 |
| Subordinated Debt | 2,000.0 | 2,000.0 | 2,825.0 |
| Other Liabilities | 3,691.6 | 4,664.9 | 7,585.8 |
| Paid Up Capital | 4,730.8 | 5,730.8 | 6,730.8 |
| Tier-1 Equity | 8,650.6 | 11,254.0 | 11,635.8 |
| Net Worth | 10,083.3 | 13,226.4 | 14,214.5 |
| INCOME STATEMENT | CY 2021 | CY 2022 | CY 2023 |
| Net Mark-up Income | 8,981.7 | 10,419.1 | 10,731.6 |
| Net Provisioning / (Reversal) | 1,884.3 | 2,337.4 | 2,782.0 |
| Non-Markup Income | 1,430.5 | 2,108.8 | 2,548.1 |
| Operating Expenses | 6,269.6 | 8,145.1 | 9,824.3 |
| Profit Before Tax | 2,258.3 | 1,801.6 | 673.4 |
| Profit after tax | 1,556.2 | 1,225.0 | 405.3 |
| DATIO ANALYCIC | CV 2021 | CV 2022 | CV 2022 |
| RATIO ANALYSIS | CY 2021 | CY 2022 | CY 2023 |
| Gross Infection (%) | 3.9% | 2.4% | 2.7% |
| Incremental Infection (%) | 4.8% | 3.4% | 2.6% |
| Provisioning Coverage – Total (%) | 101.7% 46.7% | 115.5% 42.7% | 124.3% 48.7% |
| Provisioning Coverage – Specific (%) | | | |
| Net Infection (%) | 2.1% | 1.4% | 1.4% |
| Net NPLs to Tier-1 Capital (%) | 14.4% | 10.9% | 12.1% |
| Capital Adequacy Ratio (%) | 17.0% 19.2% | 16.4% 22.7% | 15.3% 26.8% |
| Markup on earning assets (%) | | | |
| Cost of Funds (%) | 7.8% | 12.4% | 17.2% |
| Markup Spreads (%) | 11.5% | 10.3% | 9.7% |
| OSS (%) | 115.6% | 107.4% | 101.9% |
| ROAA (%) | 1.7% | 1.0% | 0.4% |
| ROAE (%) | 21.9% | 12.3% | 4.2% |
| Advances to Deposit Ratio (%) | 64.8% | 75.7% | 78.7% |
| Liquid Assets to deposits & borrowings (%) | 45.8% | 35.9% | 33.2% |

VIS Credit Rating Company Limited

| REGULATORY DI | SCLOSURES | S | | | Annexure III | |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Name of Rated Entity | HBL Microfina | nce Bank Li | mited – HBL I | MfB (Formerly: The First MicroFin | anceBank Pakistan (FMfB) | |
| Sector | Microfinance B | ank (MfB) | | | | |
| Type of Relationship | Solicited | | | | | |
| Purpose of Rating | Entity Ratings | | | | | |
| Rating History | Medium to | | | | | |
| , | Rating | Long | Short | | Rating | |
| | Date | Term | Term | Rating Outlook | Action | |
| | RATING TYPE: ENTITY | | | | | |
| | 30/04/2024 | A+ | A-1 | Stable | Reaffirmed | |
| | 28/04/2023 | A+ | A-1 | Stable | Reaffirmed | |
| | 30/04/2022 | A+ | A-1 | Stable | Maintained | |
| | 30/04/2021 | A+ | A-1 | Rating Watch- Developing | Reaffirmed | |
| | 30/04/2020 | A+ | A-1 | Rating Watch- Developing | Maintained | |
| | 25/03/2019 | A+ | A-1 | Stable | Reaffirmed | |
| | 30/04/2018 | A+ | A-1 | Stable | Reaffirmed | |
| | 31/10/2017 | A+ | A-1 | Stable | Reaffirmed | |
| | 28/04/2017 | A+ | A-1 | Stable | Reaffirmed | |
| | 28/04/2016 | A+ | A-1 | Stable | Upgrade | |
| Instrument Structure | N/A | | | | | |
| Statement by the Rating Team | VIS, the analysts involved in the rating process and members of its rating committee do not have any conflict of interest relating to the credit rating(s) mentioned herein. This rating is an opinion on credit quality only and is not a recommendation to buy or sell any securities. | | | | | |
| Probability of Default | VIS' ratings opinions express ordinal ranking of risk, from strongest to weakest, within a universe of credit risk. Ratings are not intended as guarantees of credit quality or as exact measures of the probability that a particular issuer or particular debt issue will default. | | | | | |
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| | Company Limit credit to VIS. | ted. All righ | ts reserved. Co | ontents may be used b | | |
| | Name | | | gnation | Date | |
| Day Dillaga | Mr. Ali Raza Ar | njum | Chief Oper | ating Officer | 05 th April 2024 | |
| Due Diligence | Mr. Rizwan Ma | qsood | Chief Fina | ncial Officer | 05th April 2024 | |
| Meeting/s Conducted | Mr. Shahid Abb | | | | 05th April 2024 | |
| | | | | | Γ | |