Tunisia Approves an Economy Plan to Negotiate with the IMF

Tunisia is seeking through a government document prepared on the negotiating program with the International Monetary Fund and to persuade international financial institutions to finance the Tunisian economic program, to reduce the mass of wages in the public sector to the limits of 15 percent of GDP during 2022, while it was in the range of 17.4 percent during the past year, it works to implement these reforms at no social cost; and that by directing aid to vulnerable groups.

The government also plans to gradually reduce the number of subsidies provided by the government for a group of basic consumer products during the coming period, pending the abolition of the entire subsidy system during the year 2024. The gradual lifting of subsidies is expected to include foodstuffs in a first stage. Then electricity and gas at a later stage before the final abandonment of the subsidy system.

As part of its reform program, the Tunisian government approved encouraging employees to leave voluntarily in exchange for receiving 25 percent of their salaries or half of the

salary in exchange for fewer working days. The government seeks to review the bonus system, in consultation with trade union organizations, and proposes a rule for controlling salaries and bonuses based on productivity, economic growth, and the evolution of the rate of inflation at the local level. On the other hand, the Central Bank of Tunisia presented a 3-year plan aimed at achieving greater effectiveness at the level of monetary policy by establishing an inflation-based framework in line with international best practices. This plan is among the most important axes of the government reform document that Tunisia is currently negotiating with the International Monetary Fund.

The Tunisian Central Bank plans to put in place a mechanism for calculating and estimating financial crises to understand the risks of exposure of the Tunisian banking system to macroeconomic shocks, fluctuations in inflation, interest rates and the exchange rate.

Source (Asharq Al-Awsat Newspaper, Edited)
توقع صندوق النقد الدولي أن يصل إجمالي الدين العام مقابل الناتج المحلي었던 في الجزائر خلال العام الجاري إلى أكثر من 63 في المئة، مقابل أكثر من 53 في المئة خلال العام الماضي، أما إجمالي الدين العمومي الصافي فسيقدر بحوالي 50.5 في المئة هذا العام، بعدما كان أكثر من 50 في المئة في العام الماضي.

كما توقع الصندوق أن يصل مؤشر الواردات إلى حوالي 42 مليار دولار، أي بعجز متوقع للميزان التجاري يفوق 31 مليار دولار، يفوق الصادرات العشرين مليار دولار. وأما بالنسبة للفائض في الطاقة فقد توقع الصندوق أن يتجاوز 18 مليار دولار، يفوقket الصافي بحوالي 60.5 في المئة في المئة هذا العام.

وقد توقع الصندوق الدولي أن يتجاوز التضخم 5 في المئة خلال العام الجاري، ونحو 6 في المئة خلال العام القادم، ونحو 6 في المئة خلال العام الماضي، بالإضافة إلى عجز في الموازنة يفوق 18 في المئة.

وقد توقع الصندوق الدولي أن يفترض ارتياحا لما يسميه بـ "موجة إيجابية" فيما يتعلق بالديون الخارجية التي تظل متواضعة، حيث يتوقع تناقص ديون الجزائر الصافية إلى حوالي 5.2 في المئة من الناتج المحلي خلال عام 2021 و2022 مقابل 5.2 في المئة في المئة في 2020.

ومنذ سنوات، ازدادت احتياطيات الجزائر النفطية وزاد الطلب المحلي مما زاد من احتمالات خروج الجزائر إلى بلد غير نفطي، ورفع توقعات الخروج من منظمة البلدان المصدرة للنفط (أوبك) الأمر الذي سبب تفاؤل الجزائر في استمرار انخفاض الاحتياطي الصافي إلىyect 38 مليار دولار، على أن يواصل التأكيد في العام المقبل إلى نحو 29 مليار دولار. المغرب: (صحيفة العرب اللندنية، بتصرف)

The IMF Paints a Bleak Picture of the Algerian Economy

The International Monetary Fund expected that the total public debt compared to the gross domestic product in Algeria during the current year will be more than 63 percent, compared to more than 53 percent last year, while the total net public debt will be estimated at about 60.5 percent this year, after it was more than 50 percent in the last year.

The Fund also expected that the import index would reach 42 billion dollars, and exports would exceed 31 billion dollars, meaning an expected trade balance deficit of more than ten billion dollars. As for inflation, the International Monetary Fund has expected that it will reach about 5 percent during the current year, and about 6 percent during the next year, in addition to a budget deficit of more than 18 percent, compared to more than 12 percent during the past year. As for the budget deficit outside of oil, it was estimated at more than 33 percent.

The International Monetary Fund expressed satisfaction with what it called a positive margin of movement in relation to external debt, which remains modest, as it is expected to reach 3.6 percent and 5.2 percent of output in 2021 and 2022, compared to 2.3 percent in 2020.

For years, Algeria’s oil reserves dwindled, and domestic demand increased, which fueled expectations about Algeria’s transformation into a non-oil country and expectations of its exit from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), which will lead during the current year to a continued decline in the exchange reserves to a ceiling of more than $ 38 billion. Corrosion continues in the next year to about $ 29 billion.

Source (London-based Arab Newspaper, Edited)
The IHS Market Purchasing Managers' Index showed that the non-oil private sector in Egypt shrank at the end of April for the fifth month in a row, as sales and employment declined at a rapid pace.

IHS Markit revealed that future production expectations, which came at 65, are still strong, but weaker than the 77.2 recorded in March when the launch of the Covid-19 vaccination program fueled hopes for a recovery. Both production and new orders recorded a contraction for the fifth month in a row, while the sub-index of production increased to 46.8 from 46.7 in March, and the sub-index of new orders advanced to 47 from 46.9.

The entire non-oil private sector began to contract in December, stopping a series of growth for three consecutive months, as a renewed high incidence of Corona virus infections led to a decline in demand. However, the new export orders sub-index rose to 53.1 from 48.6 in March as economies abroad improved.

The rate of inflation was the fastest on record since September 2019, as commodity prices such as metals and plastics rose, forcing many companies to raise their prices. In contrast, the number of jobs continued to shrink, continuing a decline that began in November 2019. The employment sub-index fell to 47.6, its largest contraction since August, from 48.9 in March 2021.

Source (London-based Arab Newspaper, Edited)