

Economic Research

# Banxico – Communication strategy changes aimed to provide further clarity

- Today, the Bank of Mexico announced changes to its monetary policy communication strategy, aiming to provide additional information and clarity about their decision-making process
- In this sense, two actions will be taken:
  - (1) In each monetary policy decision, the bank will publish updated inflation forecasts -both for the headline and the core- for the upcoming eight quarters; and
  - (2) The direction of each member's vote will be released in the statement, as opposed to their publication until the meeting minutes
- These measures will begin in the decision to be held on August 12<sup>th</sup>
- Moreover, they are in addition to other measures taken by the central bank to improve their communication with market participants and the public at large
- We applaud Banxico's efforts to foster the openness and transparency of its decisions, particularly given a very uncertain economic backdrop

Banxico announces changes to its communication strategy. Today, the central bank announced changes to its monetary policy communication strategy, aiming to provide additional information and clarity about their decision-making process. Specifically, they announced two measures: (1) In each monetary policy decision, the bank will publish updated inflation forecasts —both for the headline and the core— for the upcoming eight quarters; and (2) The direction of each member's vote will be released in the statement, as opposed to their publication until the meeting minutes. On the former, we recall that updated forecasts were previously released by the monetary authority every three months, in their *Quarterly Report*. During this period, the statement included only a brief comment about the likely deviations of inflation relative to their latest estimates. On the latter, the identity of dissenting voters was only known in the corresponding minutes, with an additional sector expanding on their rationale. These measures will begin in the decision to be held on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

We applaud efforts by the Board to provide additional information to market participants and the public at large. On top of today's announcement, we should remember that this follows other actions taken in 2018 and 2020 in terms of adjustments to their communication strategy. In our opinion, these have been very useful and reinforce the position of Banxico as a global leader in this front. Besides adding greater transparency and accountability, we see at least to additional large benefits. First, we believe these actions will improve the efficiency of the transmission mechanism of monetary policy through expectations, which is key in our country. Second, we consider that a timelier update of inflation estimates will be particularly useful, especially in an inflation forecast targeting framework. This is even more important in a backdrop of high volatility and uncertainty—such as the one we are experiencing currently—, which reinforces the need for the central bank to remain highly dependent on the evolution of economic data.

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Banxico's 2021 policy decisions

Date	Decision
February 11	-25bps
March 25	0bps
<u>May 13</u>	0bps
June 24	+25bps
August 12	<u>+25bps</u>
September 30	<u>+25bps</u>
November 11	<u>+25bps</u>
December 16	+25bps

\*Note: Underlined figures indicate forecasts Source: Banxico

We maintain our call of four 25bps hikes in the remainder of the year, including in the August 12th meeting. With this, the reference rate would close 2021 at 5.25%. After this, we expect the hiking cycle to extend into early 2022, with increases of the same magnitude in the first two meetings of the year. Finally, we forecast an additional hike in December, taking the rate to 6.00%. For more details, see here.

Document for distribution among the general public



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We, Gabriel Casillas Olvera, Alejandro Padilla Santana, Delia María Paredes Mier, Juan Carlos Alderete Macal, Manuel Jiménez Zaldívar, Marissa Garza Ostos, Francisco José Flores Serrano, Katia Celina Goya Ostos, Santiago Leal Singer, José Itzamna Espitia Hernández, Alik Daniel García Alvarez, Víctor Hugo Cortes Castro, Hugo Armando Gómez Solís, Miguel Alejandro Calvo Domínguez, Luis Leopoldo López Salinas, Leslie Thalía Orozco Vélez, Gerardo Daniel Valle Trujillo and Juan Barbier Arizmendi, certify that the points of view expressed in this document are a faithful reflection of our personal opinion on the company (s) or firm (s) within this report, along with its affiliates and/or securities issued. Moreover, we also state that we have not received, nor receive, or will receive compensation other than that of Grupo Financiero Banorte S.A.B. of C.V for the provision of our services.

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	Reference
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