Growth in most economies, particularly the low-income countries, is back to precrisis rates. Recovery has been helped by strong domestic demand, stable financial flows, and terms-of-trade gains from strong commodity prices, which have also improved the region’s external balance. As output gaps close, fiscal policy needs to stay countercyclical.

Source: IMF staff estimates.

1Aggregates for the external economy are sums of individual country data. Aggregates for terms of trade are weighted by the country’s trade share in the group. Aggregates for all others are computed on the basis of purchasing-power-parity weights.

2Excludes Liberia and Zimbabwe due to data limitations.