

# DAILY FX NEWSLETTER 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020

# Local Markets:

The Kenyan shilling was stable on Friday supported by inflows from diaspora remittance amid weak dollar demand from oil and merchandise importers.

### Indicative FX rates as at 8.30am:

| Currency | Buying | Selling | Currency    | <b>Today</b> | Previous |
|----------|--------|---------|-------------|--------------|----------|
| USD/KES  | 105.40 | 106.60  |             |              |          |
| GBP/KES  | 130.70 | 132.70  | GBP/USD     | 1.2427       | 1.2450   |
| EUR/KES  | 114.15 | 115.95  | EUR/USD     | 1.0855       | 1.0855   |
| INR/KES  |        | 1.4200  | AUD/USD     | 0.6555       | 0.6550   |
|          |        |         | USD/INR     | 75.66        | 75.25    |
|          |        |         | Commodities |              |          |
|          |        |         | Gold        | 1706         | 1720     |
|          |        |         | Brent Crude | 30.41        | 29.93    |

#### T-Bills Rates:

| Duration | Current | Previous |
|----------|---------|----------|
| 91 Days  | 7.253%  | 7.242%   |
| 182 Days | 8.151%  | 8.134%   |
| 364 Days | 9.161%  | 9.115%   |
|          |         |          |

## Top News:

- Oil prices slid nearly \$1 a barrel on Monday as concern over a persistent glut and economic gloom caused by the coronavirus pandemic combined to cancel out support from supply cuts at some of the world's top producers.
- Gold held above the key \$1,700 per ounce level on Monday as a new wave of coronavirus infections in some countries kept the safe-haven metal underpinned, despite firmer equities and a stronger dollar.

#### **International Markets**

<u>USD</u>: The dollar rose against most of its major peers on Monday as moves by the United States and other countries to re-open their economies raised hopes for a quicker global recovery from a deep recession triggered by the coronavirus health crisis. While the dollar often trades as a safe-haven asset given its reserve currency status, it has recently developed some positive correlation with Wall Street as investors focus on yields.

**GBP:** GBP/USD stays positive so far during the week's start. UK PM Johnson announced the easing of lockdown restrictions from level four to three. One-week-long Brexit talks begin today, fisheries remain as a tough nut to crack. Risk-tone dwindles amid mixed trade/virus updates. GBP/USD takes the bids to 1.2432, up 0.16% on a day, while heading into the London open on Monday. The pair earlier cheered the UK PM Boris Johnson's lockdown statements while US dollar weakness seems to please the buyers off late.

**EUR:** EUR/USD rises as USD broadly weaker on Monday. Friday's risk-on continues optimism that coronavirus-led restrictions will be eased. France and Netherlands urge the EU to implement to adopt trade protectionist policies. EUR/USD is currently trading in a sideways manner just under the 4-hour chart 100-candle average at 1.0852, having bounced up from 1.0822 during the Asian trading hours.

**INR**: USD/INR recovers from the monthly low. Downbeat economic forecasts come in handy amid virus outbreak in India. US-China jitters renew, major economies in the UK, US and Europe stay ready to reopen. Indian Trade Deficit, virus/trade headlines in focus. USD/INR rises to 75.60, up 0.07% on a day, amid the early Indian session on Monday. Worries over the Indian economic performance during the coronavirus (COVID-19) led lockdown recently fueled the quote whereas increasing odds of the US-China tussle adds to the recovery momentum.

For further enquiries, kindly contact: Joseph Nyamache /Daniel Yegon/Mayuri Mistry, D/L 020-2223409/2213470 or general nos. 2228461/2

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