

## Local Markets:

The Kenyan shilling strengthened slightly against the U.S Dollar on Wednesday, supported by foreign exchange inflows from the diaspora and Central Bank support.

Today's expected USD/KES trading range is 128.50/129.50

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| indicative 1 A rates as at 0.50am. |        |         |                    |              |          |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--------|---------|--------------------|--------------|----------|--|--|
| Currency                           | Buying | Selling | Currency           | <b>Today</b> | Previous |  |  |
| USD/KES                            | 128.50 | 129.50  |                    |              |          |  |  |
| GBP/KES                            | 160.50 | 162.10  | GBP/USD            | 1.2530       | 1.2487   |  |  |
| EUR/KES                            | 134.00 | 135.55  | EUR/USD            | 1.0478       | 1.0378   |  |  |
| INR/KES                            |        | 1.5020  | USD/INR            | 86.50        | 86.42    |  |  |
|                                    |        |         | AUD/USD            | 0.6355       | 0.6325   |  |  |
|                                    |        |         | Commodities        |              |          |  |  |
|                                    |        |         | Gold               | 2922.2       | 2886.8   |  |  |
|                                    |        |         | <b>Brent Crude</b> | 74.50        | 76.71    |  |  |

## Benchmark Rates:

| Tenor         | Current  | Previous | Next meeting |
|---------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| 91 Days       | 9.1156%  | 9.5219%  | -            |
| 182 Days      | 9.5190%  | 10.0275% | -            |
| 364 Days      | 10.7581% | 11.3132% | -            |
| KES INFLATION | 3.300%   | 3.000%   | -            |
| KES CBR       | 10.75%   | 11.25%   | -            |
| FED RATE      | 4.25%    | 4.50%    | -            |
| ECB RATE      | 3.00%    | 3.25%    | -            |
| BOE RATE      | 4.75%    | 5.00%    | -            |
| RBI RATE      | 6.50%    | 6.50%    | -            |

## Top News

Oil: Oil prices fell in Asian trade on Thursday as U.S. President Donald Trump talked up a potential peace treaty between Russia and Ukraine, which could potentially free up Russian oil supply curbed by U.S. sanctions.

<u>Asia-Pacific markets</u>: Asian stocks rose on Thursday as an artificial intelligence-fueled rally in China and reports of dealmaking activity in Japan's technology sector helped offset headwinds from hot U.S. inflation data.

## **International Markets**

<u>USD</u>: The US dollar rose Wednesday after the latest inflation release pointed to underlying inflationary pressures, potentially delaying further interest rate cuts by the Federal Reserve.

**GBP**: GBP/USD gains ground possibly as traders project annual UK GDP to expand in Q4 2024.BoE's Catherine Mann expressed concerns over weakening demand in the United Kingdom. January's inflation in January has reduced the likelihood of a dovish Fed stance for the June policy meeting. GBP/USD extends its winning streak for the third consecutive day, trading around 1.2460 during Thursday's Asian session.

**EUR**: EUR/USD gains ground ahead of Germany's Final Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices data due on Thursday. The Euro may depreciate amid rising global trade tensions ahead of potential US reciprocal tariffs. CME Fed Watch Tool suggests the likelihood of a Fed rate cut in June has now dropped to nearly 30%. The EUR/USD pair continues its upward momentum for the third straight session, hovering around 1.0430 during Asian trading hours on Thursday.

<u>INR:</u> The Indian rupee is likely to open flat-to-marginally weaker on Thursday after hotter-than-expected U.S. inflation data made it likely that the Federal Reserve will not cut rates in a hurry and on comments by President Donald Trump that he will impose reciprocal tariffs soon.

Source: Reuters.

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