

# NEWSLETTER

## GLOBAL MARKETS

**Local Markets:**

Kenyan shilling has remained relatively stable against the dollar in recent months, generally trading within a narrow range. The shilling's recent stability has been supported by robust diaspora remittances, healthy foreign exchange reserves and managed import demand.

Today's expected USD/KES trading range is 128.50/129.65

**Indicative FX rates as at 8.30am:**

Currency	Buying	Selling	Currency	Today	Previous
<b>USD/KES</b>	128.50	129.65			
<b>GBP/KES</b>	172.50	174.50	<b>GBP/USD</b>	1.3441	1.3455
<b>EUR/KES</b>	149.55	152.00	<b>EUR/USD</b>	1.1715	1.1705
<b>INR/KES</b>		1.4220	<b>USD/INR</b>	92.41	92.42
			<b>AUD/USD</b>	0.7089	0.7093
			<b>Commodities</b>		
			<b>Gold</b>	4765.42	4813.25
			<b>Brent Crude</b>	96.72	94.99

**Benchmark Rates:**

Tenor	Current	Previous	
<b>91 Days</b>	7.400%	7.4261%	
<b>182 Days</b>	7.830%	7.8292%	
<b>364 Days</b>	8.278%	8.2825%	
<b>KES INFLATION</b>	4.40%	4.50%	
<b>KES CBR</b>	8.75%	9.00%	
<b>FED RATE</b>	3.50%	3.75%	
<b>ECB RATE</b>	2.00%	2.40%	
<b>BOE RATE</b>	3.75%	4.00%	
<b>RBI RATE</b>	5.25%	5.25%	

**Top News**

**Oil:** Oil prices climbed on Friday, driven by fresh anxiety over supplies from Saudi Arabia and as tanker traffic through the critical Strait of Hormuz remained largely frozen.

**Asia-Pacific markets:** Most Asian stocks rose on Friday amid cautious optimism ahead of ceasefire talks between Iran and the U.S., with regional bourses also headed for a strong weekly performance. Chinese stocks were among the better performers for the day, even as inflation data for March painted a mixed picture of Asia's largest economy.

**International Markets**

**USD:** The U.S. dollar turned lower on Thursday after a tentative ceasefire in the Middle East was given a boost as Israel and Lebanon agreed to negotiate, removing a key contention point for Iran.

**GBP:** GBPUSD edges lower after four days of gains, trading around 1.3430 during the Asian hours on Friday. The pair depreciates as the US Dollar (USD) holds ground on renewed risk aversion which could be attributed to the uncertainty over the United States (US)-Iran ceasefire. Traders await the US Consumer Price Inflation (CPI) report due later in the North American session.

**EUR:** The EUR/USD pair struggles to capitalize on its weekly gains registered over the past four days and trades with a mild negative bias below the 1.1700 mark during the Asian session on Friday. The downside, however, remains cushioned amid the lack of any meaningful US Dollar (USD) buying and ahead of the US consumer inflation figures, due later today.

**INR:** The rupee got a small boost, rising 10 paise to 92.41 against the US dollar on Friday. This uptick comes after banks rushed to meet a Reserve Bank of India deadline, making the foreign exchange market extra jumpy for the day.

**Source: Reuters.**

For further enquiries, kindly call: Joseph Nyamache /Daniel Yegon, Direct Lines: +254 111 030 600/626/681.

**DISCLAIMER:** Even though care and caution has been taken in the preparation of the opinions, forecasts and provision of information contained in this report, the Bank does not take any responsibility or give any warranties as to their accuracy or completeness, nor does the bank assume liability for any losses arising from errors or omissions or the results obtained from the use of such information.