

# NEWSLETTER

## GLOBAL MARKETS

### Local Markets:

Kenyan shilling is expected to hold steady against the US dollar. The shilling's stability is attributed to support by robust diaspora remittances, healthy foreign exchange reserves and managed import demand.

Today's expected USD/KES trading range is 129.00/129.60

### Indicative FX rates as at 8.30am:

| Currency       | Buying | Selling | Currency           | Today   | Previous |
|----------------|--------|---------|--------------------|---------|----------|
| <b>USD/KES</b> | 129.00 | 129.60  |                    |         |          |
| <b>GBP/KES</b> | 173.00 | 174.60  | <b>GBP/USD</b>     | 1.3499  | 1.3497   |
| <b>EUR/KES</b> | 146.90 | 148.55  | <b>EUR/USD</b>     | 1.1481  | 1.1483   |
| <b>INR/KES</b> |        | 1.3600  | <b>USD/INR</b>     | 95.90   | 95.80    |
|                |        |         | <b>AUD/USD</b>     | 0.7040  | 0.6700   |
|                |        |         | <b>Commodities</b> |         |          |
|                |        |         | <b>Gold</b>        | 4011.16 | 3989.10  |
|                |        |         | <b>Brent Crude</b> | 90.44   | 84.20    |

### Benchmark Rates:

| Tenor                | Current | Previous |  |
|----------------------|---------|----------|--|
| <b>91 Days</b>       | 8.7986% | 8.8250%  |  |
| <b>182 Days</b>      | 8.9695% | 8.9711%  |  |
| <b>364 Days</b>      | 9.0415% | 8.9923%  |  |
| <b>KES INFLATION</b> | 6.68%   | 5.59%    |  |
| <b>KES CBR</b>       | 8.75%   | 8.75%    |  |
| <b>FED RATE</b>      | 3.75%   | 3.75%    |  |
| <b>ECB RATE</b>      | 2.25%   | 2.00%    |  |
| <b>BOE RATE</b>      | 3.75%   | 3.75%    |  |
| <b>RBI RATE</b>      | 5.25%   | 5.25%    |  |

### Top News

**Oil:** Oil prices jumped 3% on Monday, with Brent surpassing \$90 a barrel, as the United States and Iran expanded attacks in the Middle East that have curbed energy shipments in the Strait of Hormuz

**Asia-Pacific markets:** Asian stock markets were mixed on Monday, with South Korea sliding amid growing concerns over stretched AI valuations, and Chinese shares climbing on optimism over domestic artificial intelligence developments. Investors also monitored escalating tensions in the Middle East, which lifted oil prices and kept markets cautious over the outlook for global central bank policy.

### International Markets

**USD:** The US Dollar Index was steady at 100.73 after briefly firming earlier in the session, while most regional currencies posted only modest moves. Japan's financial markets were closed for Marine Day, leaving the yen trading in thin holiday conditions, while attention also turned to a busy week of central bank meetings and economic data across Asia.

**GBP:** The GBP/USD pair trades on a flat note around 1.3450 during the early Asian session on Monday. Traders continue to assess the developments surrounding US-Iran tensions after the US said that a third American troop was killed in the past two days. The UK employment report will be in the spotlight later on Tuesday.

**EUR:** The EUR/USD pair trades in positive territory around 1.1445 during the early European trading hours on Monday, bolstered by a hawkish tone from the European Central Bank (ECB). The ECB is expected to hold interest rates on Thursday but will hike for the second time this year in September as a renewed energy price surge raises the risk of more intense inflation pressures, according to Reuters.

**INR:** The Indian rupee opened 12 paise weaker at 96.40 against the US dollar on Monday, 20 July, as a fresh surge in crude oil prices and escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East weighed on sentiment.

**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.

RESTRICTED