Friday, 21st August 2026

Oriental

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 129.00/129.70

Indicative FX rates as at 8.30am:

Currency	*Buying*	*Selling*	*Currency*	*Today*	*Previous*
USD/KES	129.00	129.70			
GBP/KES	175.00	176.90	**GBP/USD**	1.3683	1.3523
EUR/KES	150.00	151.65	**EUR/USD**	1.1720	1.1584
INR/KES		1.3720	**USD/INR**	95.00	94.95
			AUD/USD	0.7183	0.7097
			Commodities		
			Gold	4549.68	4403.20
			Brent Crude	88.96	88.96

Benchmark Rates:

Tenor	*Current*	*Previous*	
91 Days	8.7700%	8.7734%	
182 Days	8.9480%	8.9500%	
364 Days	9.0356%	9.0365%	
KES INFLATION	6.68%	5.59%	
KES CBR	8.75%	8.75%	
FED RATE	3.75%	3.75%	
ECB RATE	2.25%	2.00%	
BOE RATE	3.75%	3.75%	
RBI RATE	5.25%	5.25%	

Top News

Oil: Oil prices were little changed on Friday, but were on track for a second weekly rise as the stalemated U.S.-Iran war continues to disrupt supply from the key Middle East producing region.

Asia-Pacific markets: Asian stocks were broadly firmer on Friday, with South Korea leading a late-week rebound as technology shares recovered, although renewed pressure in global bond markets and elevated oil prices kept most regional benchmarks on course for weekly declines.

International Markets

USD: The dollar was on shaky ground and set for a weekly loss on Friday, as investors viewed the U.S. Treasury's bond buyback gambit as merely a temporary fix, while raising fresh concerns about officials' increasingly interventionist approach.

GBP: The GBP/USD pair gathers strength near 1.3645 during the early Asian trading hours on Friday. The US Dollar (USD) softens against the British Pound (GBP) amid fading Federal Reserve (Fed) rate hike expectations. Traders brace for the UK Retail Sales data for July, which will be published later Friday.

EUR: The EURUSD attracts some dip-buyers during the Asian session on Friday and climbs back closer to its highest level since May 14, set the previous day, with bulls now awaiting a move beyond the 1.1700 mark before placing fresh bets. Nevertheless, spot prices remain on track to register strong weekly gains and prolong the month-to-date uptrend amid a broadly weaker US Dollar (USD)

INR: The Indian rupee is expected to come under pressure on Friday, dragged by rising crude oil prices and persistent dollar demand from importers looking to hedge their foreign currency exposure.

Source: Reuters.

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