

TREASURY MARKET UPDATE 13TH JULY 2021

DOMESTIC NEWS

The shilling traded sideways against the dollar on Monday as a dearth in activity which has recently prevailed continued to typify the local foreign currency market. The local unit was confined to a tight range for most of the session as activity on both demand and supply counters evenly matched, to leave the shilling little changed against the greenback. With market players lacking fresh factors to give directional impetus, market chatter alludes to range bound trading in today's session if the slowdown in activity continues. By the close of trade, the home unit stood at 107.85/108.05, same as Friday's close.

In other news, Kenya's current account deficit, a measure of a nation's trade and financial flows with other nations, widened to 5.5% of the GDP in the 12 months to May 2021 compared to 5.2% of GDP in the same period last year, according to data released by the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK). The current account deficit touched a peak of 7.2% of GDP in 2017 as the country dealt with election-related uncertainty. CBK blames lower service receipts for the widening current account deficit as service income fell in 2020 and offset the increased inflows from exports and overseas remittances. Remittances from Kenyans working abroad maintained an upward trend and reached an all-time high of \$315.8 million in May this year, up by 22% from \$258.2 million in May 2020.

Indicative Forex Rates

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	Buy Cash	Sell Cash	Buy TT	Sell TT	
USD/KES	104.45	111.45	104.95	110.95	
GBP/KES	146.00	154.00	146.50	153.50	
EUR/KES	124.55	131.55	125.05	131.05	
AED/KES	27.39	31.39	27.39	31.39	

Money Market Rates	Current	Previous	Change	
Interbank Rate	4.350%	4.365%	-0.105	
91-Day T-bill	6.614%	6.728%	-0.114	
182-Day T-Bill	7.101%	7.228%	- 0.127	
364-Day T-Bill	7.576%	7.661%	-0.085	
Inflation	6.300%	5.900%	0.400	
CBR RATE	7.000%	7.000%	0.000	
Source: Central Bank of Kenva)				

LIBOR Rates	USD	EUR	GBP
6 Months	0.15100	-0.52686	0.10175
12 months	0.23888	-0.49243	0.17300

(Source: Reuters)



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The U.S. dollar index found support on Monday at 92.202 ahead of U.S. inflation data, with investors on edge over whether the figures may offer clues about the likely timing of tapering and interest rate hikes. Fed Chair Jerome Powell's testimony at Congress on Wednesday will be closely watched for his response to the inflation figures and his tone on the recovery's progress.

The GBP/USD pair stayed subdued at \$1.38900 on Monday as it struggled for clear direction. While upbeat UK retail sales and hopes of unlock back the buyers, PM Boris Johnson's cautious comments and Brexit woes tease the pair sellers of late. Alternatively, the coronavirus concerns are becoming grim of late even as the policymakers stay intact on July 19 unlock deadline. Recently, UK PM Johnson said that life cannot go back to normal after restrictions are lifted.

The euro consolidated at \$1.1865 on Monday, weighed by European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde who hinted at a dovish shift to the rates outlook for Europe. The ECB will start tapering its pandemic-related asset purchases after its September meeting and stop buying them by the end of March.

The Japanese Yen stood at 110.31 on Tuesday, having slipped overnight to edge further away from its one-month high of 109.535.

Elsewhere, global climbed on Tuesday to \$75.35 per barrel, as tight supply and expectations of a further draw in U.S. crude inventories provided support, although fears over the spreading coronavirus variant capped gains. Meanwhile, OPEC+ is yet to make progress closing divisions between Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Indicative Profit Rates on Deposits				
Amounts	> 10 million	Amounts >100,000		
KES		USD		
2 Weeks	6.00%	0.25%		
1 Month	6.25%	0.50%		
3 Months	6.50%	0.75%		
6 Months	6.75%	1.00%		
1 year	7.00%	1.25%		
Indicative Cross Rates				
	Bid	Offer		
EUR/USD	1.1720	1.1960		
GBP/USD	1.3610	1.3940		
USD/AED	3.6610	3.6860		
USD/JPY	108.20	111.95		

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