

# TREASURY MARKET UPDATE 23RD APRIL 2021

## DOMESTIC NEWS

The Kenya shilling weakened further on Thursday amid increased demand from oil, manufacturing, agricultural and merchandise importers and is forecast to face pressure next week as traditional month-end demand for dollars increases.

By close of the day, the local unit stood at 108.55/75, compared to the day's opening of 108.35/55.

However, foreign exchange reserves at the apex Bank remains adequate to protect the unit from further depreciation. Loan proceeds from the IMF and the World Bank before the end of the current financial year are expected to boost the forex reserves and shore up the shilling.

The upcoming Eurobond issuance of \$1 billion towards end of the calendar year will help roll-over repayments for the maturing 2014 Eurobond.

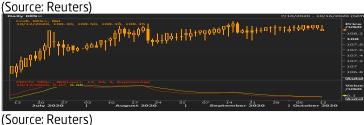
Kenya is feeling the heat of servicing its huge public debt that has affected the country's balance of payments. It will take up cheaper loans in future and retire expensive loans from China.

#### **Indicative Forex Rates**

	Buy Cash	Sell Cash	Buy TT	Sell TT
USD/KES	105.00	112.00	105.50	111.50
GBP/KES	146.40	154.40	146.90	153.90
EUR/KES	127.00	134.00	127.50	133.50
AED/KES	27.53	31.53	27.53	31.53

Money Market Rates	Current	Previous	Change	
Interbank Rate	5.7709%	5.6675%	0.103	
91-Day T-bill	7.115%	7.108%	0.007	
182-Day T-Bill	7.925%	7.938%	0.013	
364-Day T-Bill	9.460%	9.403%	0.057	
Inflation	5.900%	5.780%	0.120	
CBR RATE	7.000%	7.000%	0.000	
Source: Central Bank of Kenya)				

LIBOR Rates	USD	EUR	GBP
6 Months	0.21650	-0.52071	0.11013
12 months	0.28225	-0.49214	0.15788
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### **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

The dollar was hemmed into a narrow trading range on Friday as traders contemplate the next moves by major central banks ahead of a U.S. Federal Reserve meeting next week. Fed Chairman Jerome Powell is likely to repeat Lagarde's

Fed Chairman Jerome Powell is likely to repeat Lagarde's message that talk of tapering is premature, which would put downward pressure on Treasury yields and cap the dollar's gains against most currencies.

Separately, markets continue to digest a U.S. proposal for higher taxes to fund the country's latest social plan. U.S. President Joe Biden will reportedly propose almost doubling the tax on capital gains to 39.6% for those earning more than \$1 million a year.

The U.S. dollar index, which tracks the greenback against a basket of currencies of other major trading partners, fell 0.07% to 91.217.

Euro slipped 0.26% to \$1.2025 as the European Central Bank indicated it was in no rush to taper its emergency bond purchases despite optimism over a strong recovery and left its benchmark rate at 0.00% and said it would stick with plans to accelerate emergency bond purchases until March 2022 in a bid to keep bond yields steady.

Pound is down 0.6% to \$1.3860 erasing the week's gains as investors weighed up the outlook for an economic recovery in Britain this month as the country began to recover from the slump caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Non-essential shops in England and Wales re-opened on April 12, as part of a plan to ease the restrictions.

Elsewhere, oil prices rose 0.3% with brent at \$65.61 per barrel on hopes of a fuel demand recovery in the United States and Europe as economic growth picks up and lockdowns ease, but worries about India's raging second wave of COVID-19 cases kept a lid on gains.

# **Source: Reuters**

Indicative Profit Rates on Deposits					
Amounts	> 10 Million	Amounts >100,000			
KES		USD			
2 Weeks	6.00%	0.05%			
1 Month	6.25%	0.75%			
3 Months	6.50%	1.00%			
6 Months	6.75%	1.25%			
1 year	7.00%	1.50%			
Indicative Cross Rates					
Bid		Offer			
EUR/USD	1.1890	1.2190			
GBP/USD	1.3720	1.4020			
USD/AED	3.6610	3.6865			
USD/JPY	106.50	109.50			

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