



Central Bank of Kenya

Weekly Bulletin

March 21, 2025



RECENT MONETARY AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Exchange Rates

The Kenya Shilling remained stable against major international and regional currencies during the week ending March 20. It exchanged at KSh 129.38 per US dollar on March 20, compared to KSh 129.43 per US dollar on March 13 (**Table 1**).

Foreign Exchange Reserves

The usable foreign exchange reserves remained adequate at USD 10,001 million (5.1 months of import cover) as of March 20. This meets the CBK's statutory requirement to endeavour to maintain at least 4 months of import cover (**Table 2**).

Money Market

The money market remained liquid during the week ending March 20. Open market operations remained active. Commercial banks' excess reserves stood at KSh 21.9 billion in relation to the 3.25 percent cash reserves requirement (CRR). The average interbank rate was at 10.64 percent on March 20 compared to 10.69 on March 13. During the week, the average number of interbank deals decreased to 24 from 37 in the previous week, while the average value traded decreased to KSh 11.6 billion from KSh 19.5 billion in the previous week (**Table 3**).

Government Securities Market

The Treasury bill auction of March 20 received bids totalling KSh 31.0 billion against an advertised amount of KSh 24.0 billion, representing a performance of 129.0 percent. Interest rate on the 91-day, 182-day and 364-day Treasury bills declined (**Table 4**).

Equity Market

At the Nairobi Securities Exchange, the NASI and NSE 25 share price indices decreased by 0.2 percent and 0.05 percent, respectively, while the NSE 20 share price index increased by 0.1 percent during the week ending March 20. Market capitalization declined by 0.2 percent, while equity turnover and total shares traded, increased by 50.2 percent and 97.8 percent, respectively (**Table 6**).

Bond Market

Bond turnover in the domestic secondary market increased by 47.9 percent during the week ending March 20 (**Table 6**). In the international market, yields on Kenya's Eurobonds decreased by 6.9 basis points on average. Similarly, the yields on Angola and Côte d'Ivoire Eurobonds declined (**Chart 2**).

Global Trends

Major Central Banks remained cautious in easing their policy rates as headline and core inflation rates remained sticky. The US Fed and Bank of England retained their policy rates, while Brazil's Central Bank tightened its policy rate further by 100 basis points to 14.25 percent following increased inflationary pressures. The US Dollar Index strengthened marginally by 0.02 percent during the week ending March 20.

International oil prices held steady during the week with prices of Murban crude remaining broadly stable at USD 73.88 per barrel on March 20, compared to USD 73.92 per barrel on March 13.

Table 1: Kenya Shilling Exchange Rates								
	USD	Sterling Pound	Euro	100 Japanese Yen	Uganda Shilling*	Tanzania Shilling*	Rwandese Franc*	Burundi Franc*
07-Mar-25	129.24	166.66	139.89	87.63	28.40	20.39	10.86	22.92
10-Mar-25	129.24	166.99	140.47	87.78	28.38	20.39	10.89	22.92
11-Mar-25	129.26	166.69	140.37	87.93	28.39	20.32	10.86	22.92
12-Mar-25	129.31	167.12	141.09	87.73	28.38	20.42	10.86	22.91
13-Mar-25	129.43	167.37	140.89	87.11	28.33	20.67	10.85	22.89
Mar 7-13	129.29	166.97	140.54	87.63	28.38	20.44	10.86	22.91
14-Mar-25	129.51	167.64	140.46	87.17	28.28	20.42	10.85	22.88
17-Mar-25	129.51	167.41	140.89	87.23	28.30	20.54	10.85	22.88
18-Mar-25	129.39	167.92	141.17	86.47	28.32	20.30	10.86	22.90
19-Mar-25	129.38	168.06	141.46	86.50	28.33	20.31	10.87	22.91
20-Mar-25	129.38	168.14	140.97	87.21	28.33	20.56	10.88	22.91
Mar 14-20	129.43	167.83	140.99	86.91	28.31	20.43	10.86	22.89

*Units of currency per Kenya Shilling

Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 2: Usable Foreign Exchange Reserves (USD Million)					
	30-Jan-25	27-Feb-25	06-Mar-25	13-Mar-25	20-Mar-25
1. CBK Usable Foreign Exchange Reserves (USD Million)	8,877	9,057	9,142	10,055	10,001
2. CBK Usable Foreign Exchange Reserves (Months of Import Cover)*	4.5	4.6	4.7	5.1	5.1

*Based on 36 months average of imports of goods and non –factor services

Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 3: Money Markets			
Date	Number of Deals	Value (KSh M)	Average Interbank Rate (%)
7-Mar-25	25	11,550.00	10.69
10-Mar-25	40	23,475.00	10.68
11-Mar-25	41	24,745.00	10.67
12-Mar-25	41	18,531.00	10.69
13-Mar-25	38	19,370.00	10.69
Mar 7-13	37	19,534.20	10.68
14-Mar-25	34	23,120.00	10.67
17-Mar-25	28	11,050.00	10.71
18-Mar-25	15	3,445.00	10.70
19-Mar-25	24	10,655.00	10.72
20-Mar-25	20	9,501.00	10.64
Mar 14-20	24	11,554.20	10.69

Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 4: Performance of Treasury Bill Auctions

91-Day Treasury Bills						
Date of Auction	27-Jun-24	27-Dec-24	30-Jan-25	27-Feb-25	13-Mar-25	20-Mar-25
Amount Offered (KSh M)	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Bids Received (KSh M)	4,361.03	2,242.28	2,465.23	17,956.38	7,525.94	1,729.19
Amount Accepted (KSh M)	2,745.34	2,208.47	2,450.72	19,934.89	4,963.59	1,667.65
Maturities (KSh M)	3,922.10	3,443.00	7,518.90	16,257.75	5,829.95	6,303.10
Average Interest Rate (%)	15.977	9.895	9.522	8.937	8.918	8.840
182-Day Treasury Bills						
Date of Auction	27-Jun-24	27-Dec-24	30-Jan-25	27-Feb-25	13-Mar-25	20-Mar-25
Amount Offered (KSh M)	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Bids Received (KSh M)	1,494.42	435.30	2,863.29	6,896.23	9,804.19	8,403.35
Amount Accepted (KSh M)	1,479.67	435.30	2,520.57	6,896.23	9,797.84	6,487.86
Maturities (KSh M)	293.25	1,534.00	8,280.55	4,784.10	3,503.00	7,639.05
Average Interest Rate (%)	16.764	10.022	10.028	9.240	9.115	9.086
364-Day Treasury Bills						
Date of Auction	27-Jun-24	27-Dec-24	30-Jan-25	27-Feb-25	13-Mar-25	20-Mar-25
Amount Offered (KSh M)	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Bids Received (KSh M)	1,833.64	2,189.12	8,133.60	11,696.07	18,477.16	20,824.06
Amount Accepted (KSh M)	1,828.51	2,189.12	8,117.07	11,681.09	12,109.34	16,299.53
Maturities (KSh M)	1,679.00	1,918.60	4,035.60	10,152.85	3,183.10	9,668.00
Average Interest Rate (%)	16.791	11.410	11.313	10.500	10.474	10.461

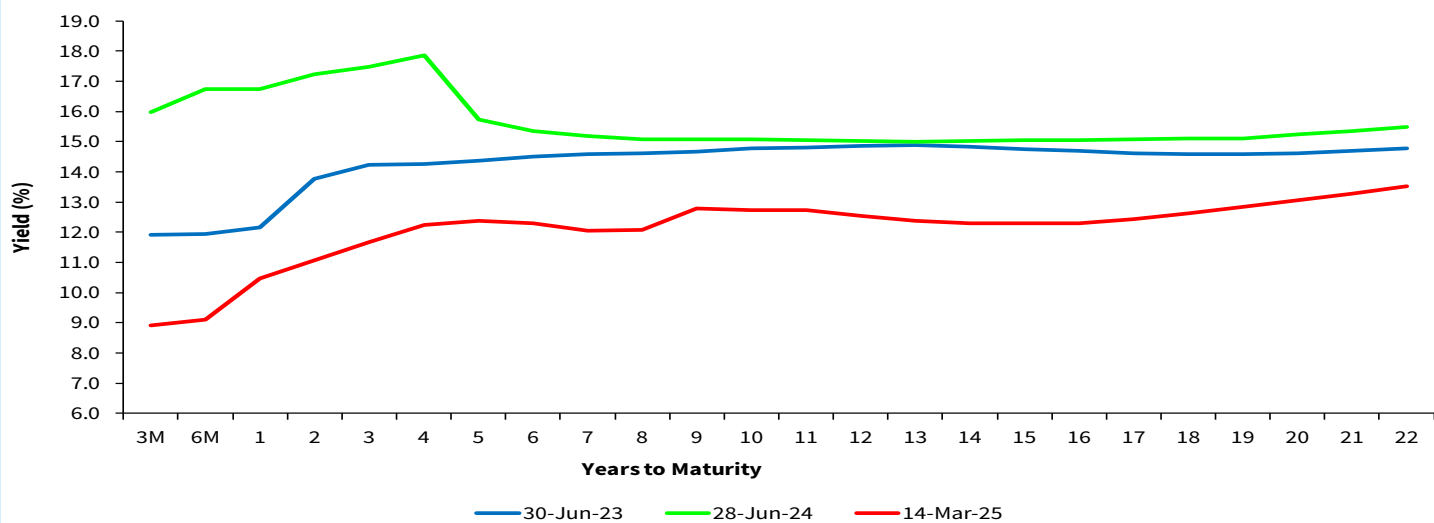
Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 5: Performance of Treasury Bond Auctions

Date of Auction	04-Dec-24		13-Dec-24	15-Jan-25		12-Feb-25		05-Mar-25
	RE-OPEN		RE-OPEN	RE-OPEN		RE-OPEN		RE-OPEN
Tenor	FXD1/ 2023/010	FXD1/ 2018/020	FXD1/ 2024/10	FXD1/ 2018/015	FXD1/ 2022/025	IFB1/ 2022/014	IFB1/ 2023/017	FXD1/ 2018/025
Amount offered (KSh M)	25,000.00		20,000.00	30,000.00		70,000.00		25,000.00
Bids received (KSh M)	47,395.28	23,922.30	53,628.95	30,576.60	28,421.50	93,132.02	100,765.93	47,011.61
Amount Accepted (KSh M)	34,922.07	18,488.38	43,448.79	23,753.07	24,728.62	65,255.75	65,553.12	35,248.22
Maturities (KSh M)								27,693.90
Average interest Rate (%)	14.69	15.11	14.69	14.21	15.68	13.98	14.28	13.80

Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Chart 1: Government Securities Yield Curve



Source: Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE)

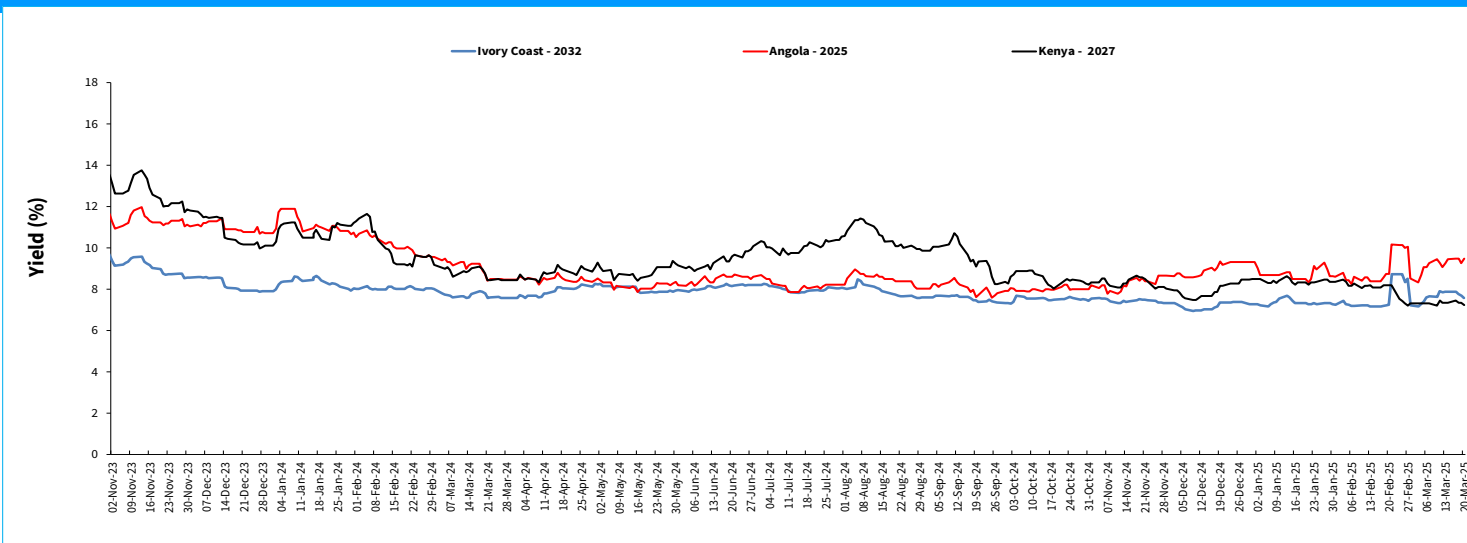
Table 6: Performance of Key Market Indicators

INDICATOR	NASI 100=2008	NSE 25 Share Index	NSE 20 Share Index 100=1996	Total Deals (Equity)	Total Shares Traded (Million)	Equity Turnover (KSh Million)	Market Capitaliza- tion (KSh Billion)	Bonds Turn- over (KSh Million)	Eurobond Yields (%)					
									7-Year 2027	10-Year 2028	6-Year 2031	12-Year 2032	13-Year 2034	30-Year 2048
7-Mar-25	133.71	3,643.48	2,337.85	2,032	15.14	311.02	2101.698	10064.05	7.326	8.413	9.812	9.839	9.945	10.293
10-Mar-25	132.36	3,613.41	2,317.22	2,073	10.22	157.19	2080.417	8014.15	7.213	8.414	9.877	9.898	9.998	10.344
11-Mar-25	132.17	3,605.40	2,299.94	2,213	21.56	543.56	2077.488	15413.30	7.441	8.464	9.877	9.899	10.024	10.327
12-Mar-25	131.56	3,583.05	2,287.09	1,849	21.43	378.87	2067.964	8755.65	7.328	8.415	9.844	9.87	9.973	10.31
13-Mar-25	130.14	3,538.96	2,251.02	2,241	17.57	352.38	2045.636	10411.05	7.331	8.517	9.943	9.96	10.08	10.378
Mar 7-13	130.14	3538.96	2251.02	10,408.00	85.92	1,743.02	2,045.64	52,658.20	7.331	8.517	9.943	9.960	10.080	10.378
14-Mar-25	129.54	3,529.45	2,236.72	1,883	26.0	579.4	2036.1	14451.2	7.332	8.517	9.910	9.931	10.378	10.378
17-Mar-25	130.35	3,558.32	2,252.25	1,717	89.8	750.9	2048.9	13674.7	7.448	8.518	10.109	10.079	10.463	10.463
18-Mar-25	129.90	3,552.28	2,241.35	2,064	27.6	585.0	2041.7	13335.1	7.333	8.669	9.877	9.933	10.378	10.378
19-Mar-25	130.25	3,555.16	2,256.53	1,758	13.9	375.6	2047.3	11954.2	7.334	8.520	9.877	9.934	10.327	10.327
20-Mar-25	129.91	3,537.34	2,252.97	1,552	12.6	326.7	2041.9	24464.2	7.220	8.521	9.745	9.790	10.260	10.260
Mar 14-20	129.91	3537.34	2252.97	8,974.00	169.94	2,617.65	2,041.89	77,879.30	7.220	8.521	9.745	9.790	10.260	10.260
Weekly Changes (%)	-0.18	-0.05	0.09	-13.78	97.79	50.18	-0.18	47.90	-0.111*	0.004*	-0.198*	-0.170*	0.180*	-0.118*

* Percentage points

Source: Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) and Thomson Reuters

Chart 2: Yields on 10-Year Eurobonds for Selected Countries



Source: Bloomberg, London Stock Exchange

Table 7: Government Domestic Debt (KSh Billion)

	29-Dec-23	28-Jun-24	30-Sep-24	31-Dec-24	31-Jan-25	28-Feb-25	7-Mar-25	14-Mar-25
1. Treasury Bills (Excluding Repos)	546.90	615.89	712.45	846.10	856.32	886.83	893.99	896.75
<i>(As % of total securities)</i>	11.35	11.75	12.96	14.77	14.78	15.02	15.12	15.14
2. Treasury Bonds	4,271.82	4,627.12	4,785.63	4,884.05	4,936.77	5,016.91	5,016.91	5,025.43
<i>(As % of total securities)</i>	88.65	88.25	87.04	85.23	85.22	84.98	84.88	84.86
3. Total Securities (1+2)	4,818.72	5,243.01	5,498.08	5,730.15	5,793.08	5,903.74	5,910.90	5,922.18
4. Overdraft at Central Bank	94.13	61.02	0.00	37.48	35.24	60.57	109.82	79.82
5. Other Domestic debt*	137.26	106.25	103.64	101.15	100.66	100.05	98.92	98.93
<i>of which IMF funds on-lent to Government</i>	104.24	83.54	82.63	80.29	79.58	79.62	77.88	77.88
6. Gross Domestic Debt (3+4+5)	5,050.11	5,410.28	5,601.71	5,868.77	5,928.98	6,064.36	6,119.64	6,100.92

* Other domestic debt includes clearing items in transit, advances from commercial banks and Pre-1997 Government Overdraft.

Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 8: Composition of Government Domestic Debt by Instrument (Percent)

	29-Dec-23	28-Jun-24	30-Sep-24	31-Dec-24	31-Jan-25	28-Feb-25	07-Mar-25	14-Mar-25
Treasury bills (Excluding Repos)	10.83	11.38	12.72	14.42	14.44	14.62	14.61	14.70
Treasury bonds	84.59	85.52	85.43	83.22	83.27	82.73	81.98	82.37
Overdraft at Central Bank	1.86	1.13	0.00	0.64	0.59	1.00	1.79	1.31
Other domestic debt	2.72	1.96	1.85	1.72	1.70	1.65	1.62	1.62
<i>of which IMF fund on lent to government</i>	2.06	1.54	1.48	1.37	1.34	1.31	1.27	1.28
TOTAL	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 9: Government Domestic Debt by Holder (Percent)

	29-Dec-23	28-Jun-24	30-Sep-24	31-Dec-24	31-Jan-25	28-Feb-25	07-Mar-25	14-Mar-25
Banking Institutions	46.07	45.12	44.38	45.05	44.96	45.40	45.83	45.34
Insurance Companies	7.23	7.23	7.22	7.32	7.32	7.23	7.16	7.18
Parastatals	5.47	5.13	5.35	5.60	5.93	5.97	6.16	6.09
Pension Funds*	29.93	29.60	29.44	28.88	28.82	28.29	28.03	28.35
Other Investors	11.30	12.92	13.60	13.16	12.97	13.11	12.81	13.05
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

* Includes pension funds and custodial/ Nominee Accounts

Source: Central Bank of Kenya

Table 10: Public Debt

	Dec-22	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Dec-24*
Domestic debt (KSh Bn)	4,472.84	4,832.11	4,917.47	5,050.11	5,235.19	5,410.28	5,558.35	5,601.71	5,868.77
Public & Publicly Guaranteed External debt (USD Bn)	37.88	38.76	38.27	38.92	39.18	39.77	40.07	40.16	39.11
Public & Publicly Guaranteed External debt (KSh Bn)	4,673.14	5,446.56	5,667.80	6,089.58	5,163.42	5,150.84	5,176.10	5,188.37	5,057.01
Public debt (KSh Bn)	9,145.98	10,278.67	10,585.27	11,139.69	10,398.61	10,561.12	10,734.45	10,790.08	10,925.78

* Provisional

Source: The National Treasury and Central Bank of Kenya