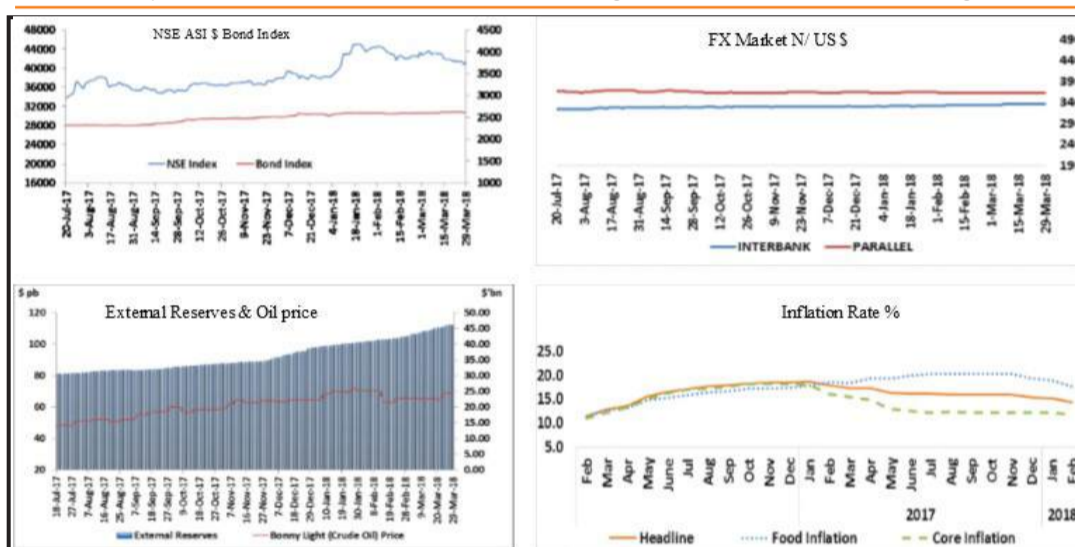


Access Bank Rateswatch

KEY MACROECONOMIC INDICATORS

Indicators	Current Figures	Comments
GDP Growth (%)	1.92	Q4 2017 — higher by 0.52% compared to 1.40% in Q3 2017
Broad Money Supply (M2) (N' trillion)	24.02	Increased by 0.79% in Feb' 2018 from N23.83 trillion in Jan 2018
Credit to Private Sector (N' trillion)	22.62	Increased by 2.88% in Feb' 2018 from N21.99 trillion in Jan 2018
Currency in Circulation (N' trillion)	1.94	Decreased by 0.42% in Feb' 2018 from N1.95 trillion in Jan 2018
Inflation rate (%) (y-o-y)	14.33	Declined to 14.33% in Feb' 2018 from 15.13% in Jan'2018
Monetary Policy Rate (%)	14	Raised to 14% in July '2016 from 12%
Interest Rate (Asymmetrical Corridor)	14 (+2/-5)	Lending rate changed to 16% & Deposit rate 9%
External Reserves (US\$ million)	46.21	March 28, 2018 figure — an increase of 8.40% from March start
Oil Price (US\$/Barrel)	69.1	March 29, 2018 figure - no change from a prior week
Oil Production mbpd (OPEC)	1.81	Feb' 2018 figure — an increase of 1.40% from Jan'2018 figure



STOCK MARKET

Indicators	Friday 29/03/18	Friday 23/03/18	Change(%)
NSE ASI	41,504.51	41,472.10	0.08
Market Cap(N'tr)	14.99	14.98	0.08
Volume (bn)	0.27	0.56	(51.33)
Value (N'bn)	3.72	6.76	(45.03)

MONEY MARKET

NIBOR			
Tenor	Friday Rate (%)	Friday Rate (%)	Change (Basis Point)
	29/03/18	23/03/18	
OBB	7.1700	14.0000	(683)
O/N	8.0800	15.0800	(700)
CALL	11.9500	8.6250	333
30 Days	15.0514	14.1722	88
90 Days	16.0237	15.4922	53

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET

Market	Friday (N/\$)	Friday (N/\$)	1 Month Rate (N/\$)
	29/03/18	23/03/18	28/02/18
Official (N)	305.65	305.70	305.90
Inter-Bank (N)	336.42	336.40	334.93
BDC (N)	360.00	360.00	360.50
Parallel (N)	362.00	362.00	363.00

BOND MARKET

AVERAGE YIELDS			
Tenor	Friday (%)	Friday (%)	Change (Basis Point)
	29/03/18	23/03/18	
3-Year	0.00	0.00	0
5-Year	13.78	13.61	17
7-Year	13.92	13.59	33
10-Year	13.69	13.56	13
20-Year	13.63	13.49	14

Disclaimer

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Market Analysis and Outlook: March 29 - April 06, 2018

Global Economy

In the U.S., the economy expanded by a revised 2.9% year-on-year in Q4'17 from the second estimate of 2.5%. The report from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) revealed that personal consumption expenditures (PCE) and private inventory investment were revised up. PCE grew by 4% in Q4'17 higher than the previous estimate of 3.8%. Fixed investment rose by 8.2% compared to 8.1% in the second estimate. Exports grew by 7% and imports grew by 14.1% from 7.1% and 14% respectively, in the previous estimate. For full year 2017, the economy accelerated by 2.3%, higher than 1.5% in 2016. Elsewhere in the United Kingdom, the gross domestic product (GDP) grew by 1.4% year-on-year in Q4'17, lower than the growth of 1.8% in the previous quarter. According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS), household expenditure rose by 1.2% compared with 1.3% in Q3, government expenditure also grew by 0.6% compared with 0.1% in the previous period. Imports and exports climbed by 3.1% and 2.7% from 1.7% and 9% respectively in the previous quarter. For the whole of 2017, the GDP grew by 1.8% higher than the second estimate of 1.7% but lower than 1.9% in 2016. In another development, Brazil's unemployment rate increased to 12.6% as at February 2018, higher than 12% in the previous period. The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) revealed that the number of unemployed persons rose by 550,000 persons to 13.12 million persons while employment dropped by 858,000 to 91.09 million persons. The labour force fell by 307,000 to 104.21 million.

Local Economy

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) report on Nigerian States and Federal Debt Stock data as at December 31st 2017 revealed that the nation's foreign and domestic debt stood at \$18.9 billion and N3.35 trillion respectively. A breakdown of the amount showed that \$10.24 billion of the total foreign debt was multilateral, \$274.98 million was bilateral, \$2.09 billion from China's Exim Bank and \$6.30 billion was commercial. Total Federal Government (FGN) debt accounted for 78.23% of the nation's total foreign debt while States and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) accounted for the remaining 21.77%. Lagos State had the highest foreign debt (36%), followed by the FCT, Kaduna and Edo, while Borno had the lowest foreign debt. Lagos state also recorded the highest state domestic debt (10.85% of the total) while Sokoto state recorded the least state debt (0.78%).

Stock Market

Trading activities at the local bourse closed the last day of the first quarter on a slightly positive note when compared with the previous week. The positive performance was due to bargain hunting and investors taking advantage of low stock valuations. The All Share Index (ASI) posted marginal gains of 0.1% or 32.41 points to close at 41,504.51 points from 41,472.10 points the previous week. Similarly, market capitalization rose by 0.1% to close at N14.99 trillion from N14.98 trillion the previous week. Market indices were pulled up by stocks in the consumer goods, industrial and oil & gas sectors. This week market sentiment may improve as investors await more earnings report and also take advantage of stocks with low valuations.

Money Market

Money market rates trended downwards in the week ended March 29, 2018 due to inflow from Federal Accounts Allocation Committee (FAAC) and retail Secondary Market Intervention Sales refund (SMIS) of about N180 billion. Short-dated placements such as Open Buy Back (OBB) and Over Night (O/N) rates declined to 7.17% and 8.08% from 14% and 15.08% respectively the previous week. Longer dated placements however, trended upwards. The 30-day and 90-day NIBOR closed higher at 15.05% and 16.02% from 14.17% and 15.49% the prior week. This week, rates may trend higher as there are no expected inflows.

Foreign Exchange Market

The naira depreciated marginally at the interbank window by 2kobo to close at N336.42/\$ from N336.40/\$ the previous week. The local currency however appreciated slightly at the official market to N305.65/\$ from N305.70/\$ the previous week. At the parallel market, the local currency remained unchanged from the previous week at N362/\$. The sustained stability in the foreign exchange market stems from Central Bank of Nigeria's (CBN) action of providing foreign currency to market participants. This week, we envisage the naira will remain around current levels.

Bond Market

Bond yields trended upwards last week due to weak demand. Yields on the five-, seven-, ten- and twenty-year debt papers settled at 13.78%, 13.92%, 13.69% and 13.63% from 13.61%, 13.59%, 13.56% and 13.49% respectively the previous week. The Access Bank Bond index fell by 7.42 points or 0.28% to close at 2,615.33 points from 2,622.76 points the previous week. This week, yields might further trend upwards due to tight liquidity.

Commodities Market

Last week oil prices moderated on increasing U.S. crude inventories. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) reported that commercial U.S. stocks rose by 1.6 million barrels to 429.95 million barrels, while output hit a record 10.43 million barrels per day (bpd). The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) reference crude fell by 0.21% to \$66.05 per barrel from \$66.19 per barrel the previous week. Nigeria's benchmark crude, Bonny light, however remained unchanged at \$69.1 per barrel. The rebound in the dollar boosted by hopes of easing tensions in East Asia pushed down the prices of precious metals. Gold price lost 1.4% to \$1,323.27 an ounce from \$1,342.04 an ounce the previous week. Silver also fell by 1.7% to \$16.25 from \$16.53 an ounce the previous week. As tensions over North Korea and global trade eases and U.S. Fed continues to hike rates, prices of precious metals may be pressured. This week, rising U.S. inventories and production may continue to cap gains on oil prices.

MONTHLY MACRO ECONOMIC FORECASTS

Variables	Apr'18	May'18	June'18
Exchange Rate (Official) (N/\$)	336.02	337.50	337.90
Inflation Rate (%)	13.96	13.74	13.00
Crude Oil Price (US\$/Barrel)	67	68	68