Weekly Investment Views

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Global Markets

United States

The United States Institute for Supply Management (ISM) Services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) edged up to 54.1 Points in July 2026 from 54.0 Points in June, indicating continued expansion in the services sector despite falling short of market expectations. Business activity accelerated to 59.1 Points from 55.4 Points, while new orders increased to 57.2 Points from 55.1 Points, reflecting sustained demand for services. Inventory growth also strengthened, although employment fell back into contraction at 47.4 Points after expanding in the previous month. Input cost pressures intensified, with the prices index rising to 70.3 Points from 67.7 Points, largely driven by higher petroleum-related products and plastics costs.

Euro Area

Euro Area Producer Price Inflation (PPI) eased to 4.6% year-on-year in June 2026 from 5.9% in May, in line with market expectations, indicating softer pipeline inflationary pressures. Meanwhile, the S&P Global Euro Area Composite Producers Manufacturing Index (PMI) was revised up to 52.0 Points in July 2026 from a preliminary estimate of 51.9 Points and 50.0 Points in June, marking the strongest expansion in business activity in eight months. The improvement reflected renewed growth in services, faster manufacturing output and the strongest increase in new business since November. Input cost and output price inflation eased further, while business confidence rose to a five-month high, signalling improved optimism at the start of the third quarter.

Asia

The RatingDog China General Composite PMI declined to 50.8 Points in July 2026 from 53.6 Points in June, marking its lowest level since July 2025 and indicating slower expansion in private sector activity. The slowdown reflected weaker momentum across the manufacturing and services sectors, while new business grew for a fourteenth consecutive month at its slowest pace since March. Employment increased for a third straight month, signalling continued hiring despite moderating business activity. Meanwhile, input costs and output charges rose at their slowest pace in six months, indicating easing inflationary pressures across both sectors.

Global Equity Market Snapshot

Market	Index	Weekly Change	Year-To-Date (YTD)
Ghana	GGSE	(1.65%)	73.30%
Nigeria	NGX ASI	0.12%	57.81%
BRVM	ICXCOMP	0.83%	40.41%
Kenya	NSE 20	1.13%	30.90%
Egypt	EGX 30	2.31%	30.72%
United States	S&P 500	3.66%	12.63%
United States	Dow Jones	3.21%	12.11%
Europe	STOXX 600	1.27%	11.03%
United Kingdom	FTSE 100	(0.27%)	9.43%
Brazil	IBOV	(0.91%)	8.95%
France	CAC 40	2.52%	6.75%
Germany	DAX	1.39%	6.74%
United States	NASDAQ	4.88%	4.35%
South Africa	JALSH	3.07%	(0.49%)
China	SHCOMP	2.51%	(1.73%)
India	SENSEX	1.32%	(7.35%)

*BRVM means Bourse Régionale des Valeurs Mobilières. Regional Stock Exchange for several West African countries that are part of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)

Sources: Various Sources and United Capital Research

Oil Markets

Crude oil prices declined during the week as easing geopolitical tensions and expectations of adequate global supply weighed on market sentiment. Brent crude fell 7.35% week-on-week to US$82.49/b as of August 06, while Bonny Light declined 4.00% to US$89.06/b as of August 05. Despite the decline, prices remained supported by supply risks and ongoing geopolitical developments.

Weekly Commodities Price Monitor				
Commodity	**Unit Price**	**Price (US$)**	**Weekly Change**	**YTD**
Oil Crude – Bonny Light August 5, 2026	US$/b	89.06	(4.00%)	40.43%
Oil Crude – Brent	US$/b	82.49	(7.35%)	35.56%
Copper	US$/lb	6.687	3.76%	17.12%
Gold	US$/lb	4,239.90	3.33%	(2.69%)
Cocoa	US$/MT	5,776	12.99%	(4.77%)
Coffee	US$/lb	306.1	(5.25%)	(12.23%)
Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)	US$/MMBtu	2.64	(4.28%)	(28.38%)

Sources: Various Sources and United Capital Research

Outlook

Global markets are expected to trade on a positive note this week as investors await July inflation data and assess the United States payrolls report. Market participants will monitor comments from United States Federal Reserve officials for signals on the interest rate outlook. United States Treasury yields are expected to remain sensitive to inflation data, while a stronger US Dollar could weigh on emerging market currencies. Gold prices may remain supported by easing geopolitical tensions, while global equities should benefit from corporate earnings and artificial intelligence-related investment announcements. China's industrial production data will provide further insight into global demand and the outlook for commodity-exporting economies.

Select Sub-Saharan African Markets

Ghana

Ghana's annual inflation rate eased to 4.6% in July 2026 from a six-month high of 5.3% in June, reflecting slower food inflation and continued moderation in domestic price pressures. Consumer prices rose by 0.1% month-on-month, down from 0.2% in June, indicating a slower pace of price increases. The decline supports signs of a sustained economic recovery, while inflation remained well below the 12.1% recorded a year earlier.

South Africa

The S&P Global South Africa Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) eased to 50.3 Points in July 2026 from 50.5 Points in June, indicating slower private sector growth. Business activity returned to growth for the first time in three months, supported by easing inflationary pressures and improved operational efficiency. However, new orders contracted for a third consecutive month as weak consumer demand, political protests and cheaper imports weighed on sales, despite stronger export demand. Input cost inflation slowed to a four-month low, while output price inflation eased to its weakest pace in five months. Employment growth moderated to a six-month low as firms remained cautious about hiring despite improving business confidence.

Kenya

The Stanbic Kenya Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose to 51.3 points in July 2026 from 50.0 points in June, signalling renewed expansion in manufacturing activity. The reading moved above the 50-point threshold, indicating improved business conditions and stronger operating performance across Kenya's manufacturing sector. Sustained expansion in the sector could strengthen employment, production and private sector investment if demand continues to improve.

Outlook

This week, investors should monitor the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) All-Share Index, as movements in gold and platinum mining stocks are expected to influence overall market direction. The South African Rand may remain sensitive to domestic economic data releases, while guidance from the South African Reserve Bank could shape expectations for local bond yields. In Kenya, investors should monitor the Nairobi Securities Exchange, where banking and real estate stocks may attract interest, while the Kenyan Shilling remains relatively stable. In Ghana, developments in gold and cocoa export receipts, alongside Bank of Ghana interventions, will remain key drivers of the Cedi and fixed income market conditions. Meanwhile, investors in Egyptian assets should monitor communication from the Central Bank of Egypt, as exchange rate stability remains important for sustaining foreign portfolio inflows.

Pan African Stock Market Monitor				
Market	**Index**	**Market Cap ($'bn)**	**WTD (Local Currencies)**	**YTD (Local Currencies)**
Ghana	15,198.53	24.17	(1.65%)	73.30%
Nigeria	245,573.60	116.14	0.12%	57.81%
Tanzania	4,177.50	13.74	(0.42%)	51.25%
Tunisia	20,119.00	16.76	0.24%	49.58%
BRVM	485.48	32.91	0.83%	40.41%
Kenya	4,108.50	30.42	1.13%	30.90%

Egypt	54,676.86	82.32	2.31%	30.72%
Namibia	2,429.30	3.13	4.04%	13.47%
Mauritius	2,277.50	6.42	(0.33%)	7.49%
South Africa	115,306.00	1,545.75	3.07%	(0.49%)
Morocco	414.33	116.8	4.21%	(2.77%)

Sources: NGX, Various Sources and United Capital Research

Currency Performance in Select African Countries				
Currency vs USD	**Signs**	**Spot Rate**	**Weekly Change**	**YTD**
Zambia	ZMW: Kwacha	19.02	(1.79%)	16.35%
Nigeria	NGN: Naira	1,365.69	(0.26%)	5.78%
South Africa	ZAR: Rand	16.36	0.86%	1.29%
Namibia	NAD: Dollar	16.35	0.87%	1.27%
Sierra Leone	SLL: Leone	24,026.00	0.08%	0.06%
Angola	AOA: Kwanza	919.28	0.01%	(0.03%)
Kenya	KES: Shilling	129.35	0.04%	(0.27%)
Guinea	GNF: Franc	8,783.00	(0.05%)	(0.39%)
Liberia	LRD: Dollar	178	1.69%	(0.56%)
Tunisia	TND: Dinar	2.92	1.20%	(1.18%)
Mauritius	MUR: Rupee	46.94	0.58%	(1.47%)
WAEMU	CFA: Franc	568.25	0.63%	(1.63%)
Morocco	MAD: Dirham	9.34	0.47%	(2.37%)
Uganda	UGX: Shilling	3,724.10	0.59%	(2.81%)
Cameroun	XAF: Franc	577.34	(0.95%)	(3.31%)
Gabon	XAF: Franc	577.34	(0.95%)	(3.31%)
Egypt	EGP: Pound	49.69	2.78%	(4.00%)
Tanzania	TZS: Shilling	2,655.00	(0.28%)	(7.34%)
Ghana	GHS: Cedi	11.75	(0.45%)	(10.62%)

Sources:NGX, Various Sources and United Capital Research

Key Rates in Select African Countries					
Countries	**10Yr Bond Yield**	**Weekly Change**	**Inflation**	**Real Return**	**Policy Rate**
Angola	22.00%	2.20%	9.33%	12.67%	15.75%
Egypt	23.00%	0.14%	14.30%	8.70%	19.00%
Uganda	15.55%	0.01%	4.00%	11.55%	9.75%
Congo	6.50%	0.00%	2.60%	3.90%	13.50%
Ghana	13.53%	0.00%	4.60%	8.93%	14.00%
Kenya	12.49%	0.00%	6.50%	5.99%	8.75%
Tanzania	12.00%	0.00%	4.00%	8.00%	6.25%

Cote d'Ivoire	7.73%	0.00%	1.80%	5.93%	5.00%
Cameroon	8.50%	0.00%	2.70%	5.80%	4.50%
Gabon	9.70%	0.00%	0.50%	9.20%	4.50%
Mauritius	5.49%	0.00%	4.40%	1.09%	4.75%
Rwanda	12.70%	0.00%	12.70%	0.00%	8.25%
Nigeria	17.21%	(0.18%)	15.91%	1.30%	26.50%
South Africa	8.45%	(0.33%)	5.00%	3.45%	7.00%
Ethiopia*	-	-	13.90%	0.00%	16.00%
*Countries marked with an asterisk (*) do not currently have an active 10-year bond in issue; as such, their corresponding real return cannot be computed due to the absence of a benchmark yield.					

Sources: FMDQ, Various Sources and United Capital Research

West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)

Senegal

The African Development Bank (AfDB) has approved CFA20bn (US$35.4mn) in financing to support Senegal's public finance management amid efforts to address its debt challenges. The financing will strengthen domestic resource mobilisation, improve public finance management and transparency, and support the implementation of structural economic reforms. The support comes as Senegal continues efforts to restore fiscal credibility after previously undisclosed public debt exceeded US$13bn. Senegal is also negotiating a new financing arrangement with the International Monetary Fund after its previous programme was suspended. Authorities remain committed to meeting the International Monetary Fund's debt sustainability requirements while avoiding a sovereign debt default.The financing is expected to support fiscal stability, strengthen investor confidence and improve Senegal's long-term economic resilience.

Mali

Mali plans to leverage mining sector reforms to raise up to CFA500bn (US$883.1mn) for energy, water and transport infrastructure projects. The initiative follows the 2023 mining code reforms, which increased government mining revenue through higher royalties and larger state ownership. The Infrastructure Development Fund mobilised CFA109.14bn between January 2025 and June 2026 from contributions by mining permit holders. The initiative is expected to strengthen infrastructure investment, support economic growth and improve public service delivery.

Outlook

Strong demand at Côte d'Ivoire's recent Treasury Bill auction could support competitive bidding and contained yields, particularly across shorter maturities. Equity investors should monitor the BRVM for strategic positioning in the banking and telecommunications stocks. Secondary bond market activity is likely to remain subdued, with primary auctions continuing to dominate investor participation. Investors should also monitor refinancing activity as maturing securities drive additional debt issuance during the year.

Market Performance Snapshot				
	Previous	**Current**	**Weekly Change**	**YTD**
BRVM	481.48	485.48	0.83%	40.41%
Currency (CFA: Franc)	571.83	568.25	0.63%	(1.63%)
Bond Yields in WAEMU Countries				
Countries	**Tenor**	**Bond Yield**	**Weekly Change**	**YTD**
Mali	3 Year	7.00%	1.00%	1.00%
Senegal	5 Year	8.00%	1.00%	2.00%
Togo	5 Year	7.00%	0.00%	1.00%
Burkina Faso	5 Year	7.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Benin	2 Year	6.00%	0.00%	(1.00%)
Ivory coast	5 Year	7.00%	0.00%	(0.46%)
Guinea- Bissau	3 Year	7.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Niger	5 Year	10.00%	0.00%	3.73%

Sources:Various Sources and United Capital Research

Key Rates in WAEMU Countries		
Countries	**Inflation**	**Policy Rate**
Mali	2.00%	3.00%
Ivory coast	1.80%	3.00%
Senegal	0.40%	3.00%
Benin	0.40%	3.00%
Togo	0.10%	3.00%
Burkina Faso	0.10%	3.00%
Guinea- Bissau	(1.20%)	3.00%
Niger	(2.90%)	3.00%

Sources:Various Sources and United Capital Research

Domestic Economy

United Capital Research forecasts Nigeria's headline inflation to ease to 15.35% in July 2026 from 15.91% in June, driven by softer food prices and continued declines in Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) prices. If realised, this would mark the second consecutive monthly decline in inflation. We expect inflation to remain within the 15% range between July and October 2026, supported by improving food supply as the harvest season gathers pace. Recent increases in tomato and yam prices largely reflect seasonal supply constraints associated with the onset of the rainy season and are expected to ease as harvests improve. The anticipated moderation in inflation should support lower fixed income yields in the short term, creating opportunities for investors to lock in current yields ahead of an expected rally in the fixed income market.

Equity Market

The Nigerian equities market closed the week on a positive note, with the NGX All-Share Index (NGX-ASI) rising 0.12% week-on-week to 245,573.60 points. Consequently, the year-to-date return improved to 57.81%. Sectoral performance was mixed, as the Banking Index gained 2.33%. However, the Insurance, Consumer Goods, Industrial Goods and Oil & Gas indices declined 3.31%, 1.75%, 0.17% and 0.03%, respectively.

Nigerian Equity Market Performance			
Index	**Close Price**	**Weekly Change**	**YTD**
NGX-ASI	245,573.60	0.12%	57.81%
Oil/Gas Index	5,240.85	(0.03%)	96.27%
Industrial Goods Index	10,507.25	(0.17%)	85.10%
Banking Index	2,586.38	2.33%	70.62%
Consumer Goods Index	4,328.65	(1.75%)	8.88%
Insurance Index	1,160.35	(3.31%)	(2.44%)

Sources: NGX and United Capital Research

Fixed Income and Money Market

The fixed income market traded mixed during the week as Nigerian Treasury Bill (NTB) and bond yields moved in opposite directions across tenors. In the NTB market, the 91-day and 182-day yields increased by 0.41% and 0.55% to 17.10% and 18.46%, respectively, while the 364-day yield declined by 0.11% to 20.30%. Bond yields declined across all tenors, with the 3-year, 5-year, 7-year and 10-year yields falling by 0.42%, 0.27%, 0.29% and 0.18% to 17.01%, 17.12%, 17.11% and 17.21%, respectively. Meanwhile, the Overnight (O/N) rate declined by 0.25% to 22.10%, while the Open Repo Rate (OPR) remained unchanged at 22.00%.

Fixed Income Securities Rates			
	Yield	Weekly Change	Year-To-Date Change
Overnight Rate (O/N)	22.10%	(0.25%)	(0.65%)
Open Repo Rate (OPR)	22.00%	0.00%	(0.50%)
91-Day NTB	17.10%	0.41%	0.80%
182-Day NTB	18.46%	0.55%	1.76%
364-Day NTB	20.30%	(0.11%)	0.71%

Bond Market Rates			
Bond	Yield	Weekly Change	Year-to-Date Change
3 Years	17.01%	(0.42%)	0.10%
5 Years	17.12%	(0.27%)	0.01%
7 Years	17.11%	(0.29%)	0.05%
10 Years	17.21%	(0.18%)	0.40%

Sources: FMDQ and United Capital Research

Outlook

Equity Market

The Nigerian equities market is expected to trade on a positive note this week, supported by continued interest in banking stocks. Nevertheless there maybe some profit taking in some stocks. Mid-cap and small-cap stocks may remain active as investors respond to recent listings and corporate developments. Corporate earnings releases are expected to influence market direction, while Naira liquidity conditions could shape overall investor sentiment.

Fixed Income Market

The fixed income market is expected to remain stable, with investors monitoring secondary market yields following the recent Nigerian Treasury Bills (NTBs) auction. Treasury Bills yields are expected to remain elevated, supported by strong institutional demand and the CBN's liquidity management operations. Interbank liquidity conditions are expected to remain tight, keeping funding costs around current levels. The FGN bond market should record steady secondary market activity as investors position ahead of the next primary auction. Eurobond prices will remain sensitive to changes in investor sentiment and Nigeria's sovereign risk outlook.

Dividend Announcements							
S/N	Company	Interim Dividend(₦)	Dividend Yield	Bonus	Qualification Date	Closure of Register	Payment Date
1	Guinness Nigeria	7.00	1.86%	-	Jul 29, 2026	Jul 30, 2026	Aug 10, 2026
2	Unilever Nigeria	2.00	1.37%	-	Jul 31, 2026	3 to 7-Aug-26	Aug 14, 2026
3	Ikeja Hotel	0.03	0.06%	-	Aug 7, 2026	10 to 14-Aug-26	Sept 4, 2026
4	Presco	10	0.48%	-	Aug 14, 2026	17 to 21-Aug-26	Aug 27, 2026
5	HBM Nigeria	16	4.44%	-	Aug 12, 2026	13 to 14-Aug-26	Aug 17, 2026
6	Custodian Investment	0.25	0.35%	-	Aug 17, 2026	18 to 21-Aug-26	Sep 8, 2026
7	MTN Nigeria	26	3.08%	-	Aug 20, 2026	Aug 21, 2026	Sep 7, 2026
8	Seplat Energy	163.88 ($0.12)	1.44%	-	Aug 13, 2026	Aug 14, 2026	Aug 28, 2026
9	VFD Group	0.24	2.09%	-	Aug 3, 2026	4 to 6-Aug-26	Aug 10, 2026
10	The Initiates	0.20	0.74%	-	Aug 10, 2026	11 to 14-Aug-26	Aug 31, 2026

Stock Recommendation			
Stocks	**Current Price**	**Target Price**	**Upside**
Transnational Corporation	39	60	54%
Access Holdings Plc	26.95	40.75	51%
Nigerian Breweries Plc	70.4	105	49%
Mutual Benefits Assurance	3.29	4.9	49%
Transcorp Power Plc	219.6	310	41%
United Bank for Africa Plc	44.9	62.64	40%
Cadbury Nigeria Plc	58.1	80	38%
International Breweries	11	15	36%
AXA Mansard Insurance	13.1	17.5	34%
Aradel Holdings Plc	1,526.80	2,000	31%
MTN Nigeria	845	1,100	30%
Sterling Financial Holdings	7.85	10	27%
Dangote Cement Plc	1,034	1,250	21%
AIICO Insurance Plc	4	5	19%
C & I Leasing Plc	5.6	6.5	16%
FCMB Group Plc	12.95	15	16%
Zenith Bank Plc	126	145	15%

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