

#### LBS BREAKFAST SESSION

# NEW DEBT IS THE WAY OUT OF BAD DEBT

YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS





Presented by Bismarck Rewane October 4th, 2023



The New Global Economic Order

World Bank Meetings Holding in Morocco After An Earthquake



## REDEFINING THE GEOPOLITICAL LEVERS OF CONTROL

- More geopolitical fragmentation than consolidation
- Possible decline in global trade, with exchanges occurring more within regional blocs
- Dollar hegemony to be threatened, but dethroning the dollar remains an uphill task

#### **China-Taiwan Relations**



Will the U.S. choose the defense of Taiwan's independence over its commitment to China?

**US-China rift** 



 Apple and Huawei as victims of trade wars

#### Donald Trump's presidential race



Prison or White House?

#### **Economic Blocs**



Plurilateral relations to dominate multilateral affiliations



#### **ECONOMIC TRENDS TO WATCH**

Global economy faces a quadrilemma in 2024

#### **High Inflation**

- Global inflation to moderate to 5.6% in 2024
- Will remain high in Africa (15.8%)
   and Nigeria (22%)
- A return to target inflation rate will be a tall order in 2024

### Tightening Monetary Policy & Elevated Interest Rates

- Possible halt in interest rate hikes as inflation slows
- Interest rates to be "higher for a longer period"



#### **Soft Landing & Moderate Growth**

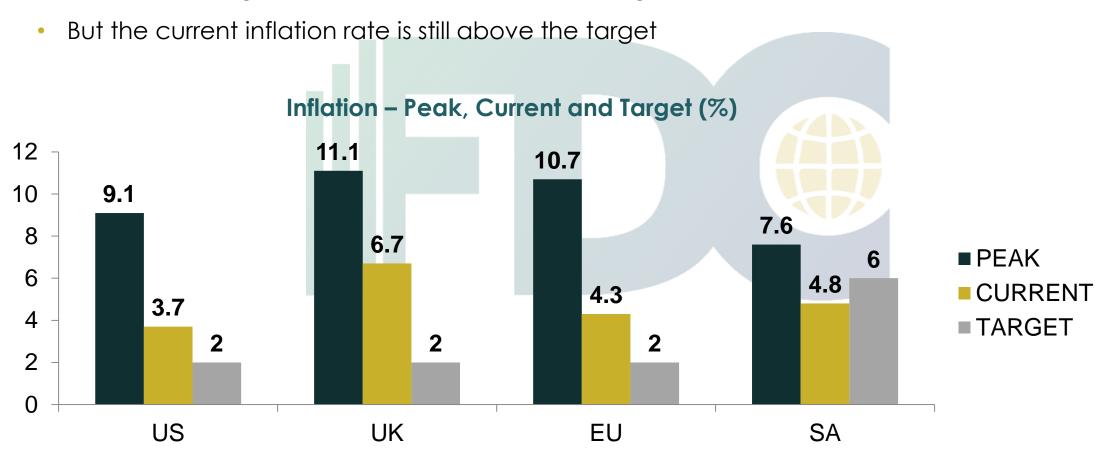
- Slow global growth but no recession
- China's growth will remain constrained
  - Emerging markets to drive global growth

## Oil Prices Higher & Output Constrained (OPEC+)

- Oil prices expected to average \$93pb in Q4'23, \$91pb in Q1'24 (EIA)
- Could moderate to \$86pb in the second half of 2024
- Petrol politics will keep energy costs elevated over the horizon

# GLOBAL INFLATION IS SLOWING BUT THE WAR IS FAR FROM OVER

Substantial progress has been made in containing inflation





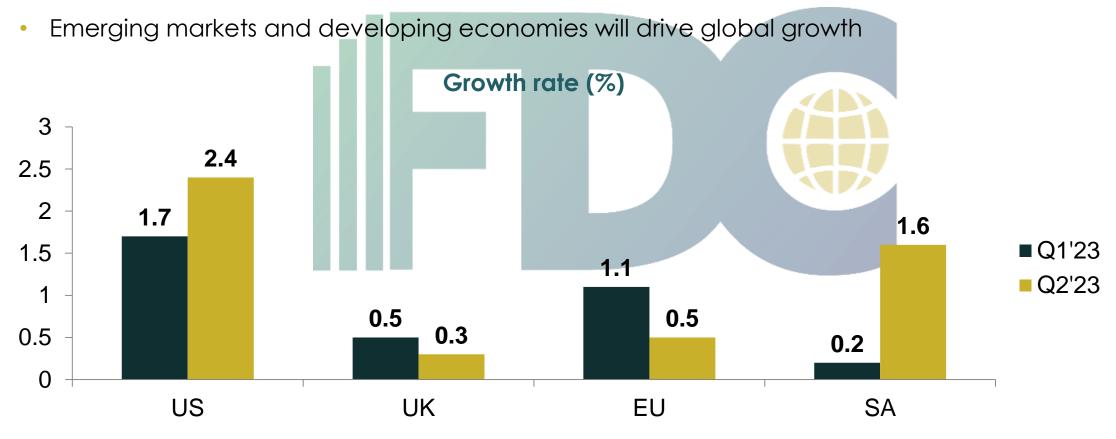
### **EURO AREA INFLATION EBBS TO 4.3% IN SEPTEMBER**

- Price inflation fell by 0.9% to 4.3% in September in the Euro area
  - After staying flat at 5.2% in August
  - The lowest level since October 2022
- Core inflation fell by 0.8% to 4.5%
- ECB has raised its policy rate for nine consecutive periods
  - Hiked interest rates to a record high of 4% in September
- The significant decline in the level of inflation in Europe could prompt the ECB to halt its interest rate hikes
- The US Fed & BOE held rates at their last meeting in September



# GROWTH IN ADVANCED ECONOMIES WILL REMAIN TEPID BUT POSITIVE

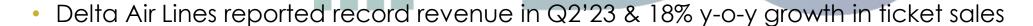
- Most advanced economies dodged a recession in 2023
- Monetary tightening to slow the pace of growth in advanced economies in 2024





#### RESILIENT CONSUMER SPENDING IN THE US

- Robust household spending in the US despite:
  - High inflation and borrowing costs
  - Cooling labour market
- Household spending grew by 5.8% in August (y-o-y)
- Retail sales grew by 0.6% (m-o-m) in August from 0.5% in July
  - Beating forecast of 0.2%



- Consumers are putting short-term needs above long-term goals
- US fed to keep interest rates high as consumer spending remains strong



# CHINA'S ECONOMY IMPROVING BUT ONLY SLOWLY

- China's economy gradually picking up after months of sluggish growth
  - Growth in China's manufacturing PMI in September to 50.2 points from 49.7 points in August
  - First growth since March and the fastest rate in six months
  - Due to stimulus from Beijing to boost economic recovery
- Offering support to global demand as higher interest rates squeeze consumers and businesses in the US and Europe
- China's real estate sector remains fragile
  - Faltering consumer confidence as property giants (Evergrande & Country Garden) stay mired in debt woes
  - Evergrande defaults on another debt payment
- More stimulus from the government is needed to support a stronger & durable recovery
- HSBC lowers forecast for 2023 GDP growth to 4.9% from 5.3%



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**INVESTMENT BANKING** 

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# GLOBAL OUTLOOK - EIU

- Restrained global growth but no recession
- Forecast growth rate of 2.3% in 2024
  - Faster growth in Europe (led by Germany) counteracting softer US expansion
  - Moderate stimulus will stabilize China's economy
- Global growth is forecast to strengthen to 2.7% a year on average in 2025-28
  - Supported by clean energy and technology investment and AI productivity enhancements
- Inflation in advanced economies to moderate to 2.2% in 2024, from 4.3% in 2023 due to:
  - Progress in addressing supply-chain problems & lower commodity prices
  - Indicating no wage-price spiral
- Inflation in several emerging and frontier markets will remain rapid
  - Due to Nino weather conditions placing upward pressure on food prices

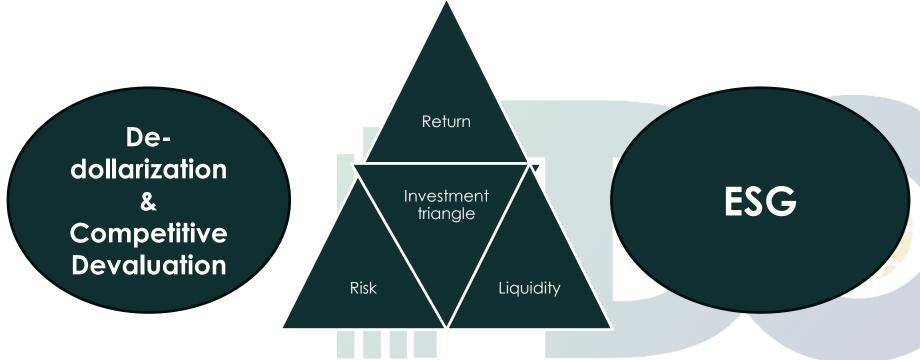
# GLOBAL OUTLOOK - EIU

- US Fed and ECB unlikely to cut interest rates until mid-2024
- To keep demand-pull inflation in check
- Central banks in emerging markets could lower policy rates primarily due to a halt in interest rate hikes
- Higher levels of investment and tighter labour markets indicate that interest rates globally may not return to 2010 levels
- End of Fed's monetary tightening to reduce support for the dollar
- However, its safe-haven status will keep it from weakening
- Structural changes in the euro zone's terms of trade point to a weaker euro
- De-dollarization initiatives will struggle to advance globally owing to a lack of alternatives



#### TRENDS TO WATCH IN THE INVESTMENT SPACE





- Less dependence on •the US dollar
- Investors to focus on squaring the investment triangle
- "Green" investment to become commonplace
- Accusation of "Greenwashing" to be on the rise



- Fintechs are introducing robot investing
- Do-it-yourself investment platforms will cannibalize traditional fund managers

# GLOBAL ASSET PERFORMANCE – POSITIVE REAL RATE OF RETURN

ASSETS	YTD Performance (%)	Real Rate of Return (%)	Rationale	
US 500	14.71	11.16	Moderation in interest rate hike and slowing inflation	
GB100	7.89	1.19	Sticky inflation in the UK continues to support constant rate hikes by the BOE	
Bitcoin	44.44	8.84	<ul> <li>Moderation of US interest rates increases</li> <li>US court of appeal to vacate rejection of grayscale investments</li> </ul>	
Gold	16.24	12.54	<ul><li>Reduced pace of increase in interest rate</li><li>Global financial instability</li></ul>	
US Treasury 6-months 1-year	5.537 5.45	1.84 1.75	US Fed interest rate hikes	

# GLOBAL FINANCIAL MARKETS - OUTLOOK

- US Fed halt in interest rate hikes will put bonds and cash investments in focus
- High inflation & slowing growth rate will put corporate profitability under pressure
- Quality in equities will be key in the search for resilience
- Investors to benefit from emerging markets in Asia due to its accelerated growth rate
  - Asia is expected to contribute about 70% to global growth
- Robust opportunities for dynamic asset allocation approach due to
  - High uncertainty on growth, inflation & valuation mispricing
- Increased focus on ESG investments





# 100 YEARS AFTER – THE DARK CONTINENT IS JOLTED INTO ACTION



#### Coup Flu



 Coup contagion likely to extend to the Anglophones

#### **Continental**

Scramble 2.0



- China diplomatic activism in Africa to gain momentum
- Russia to seek new frontiers in Africa
- The West will be in the defensive

#### **Digital Revolution**



 Africa to boost digital economy

#### **Resource Nationalism**



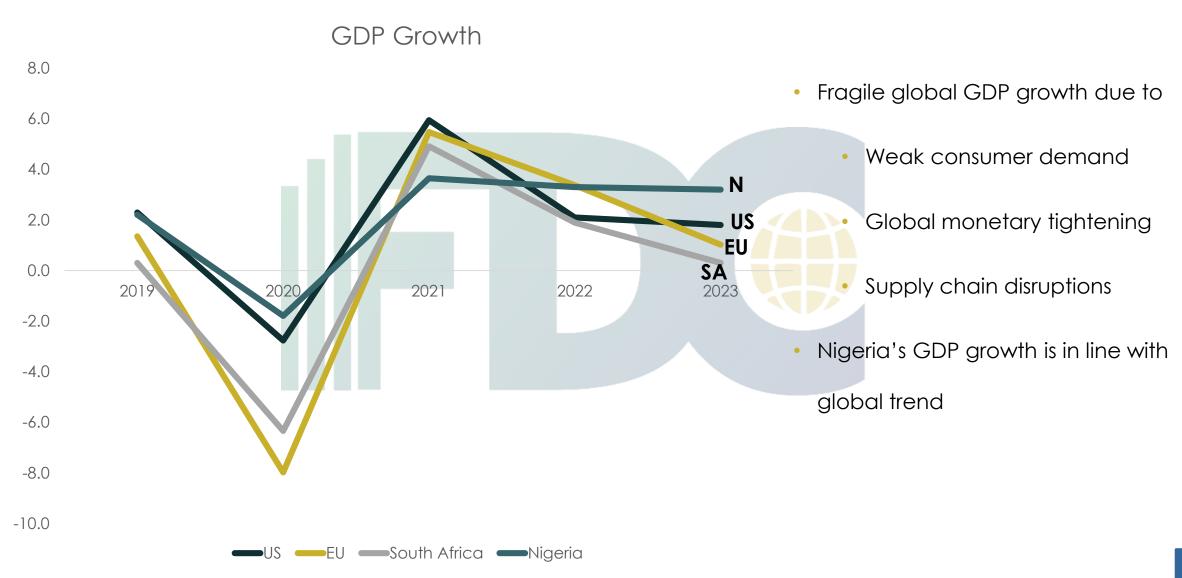
- From diamond/gold to new sources of energy
- Ghana Lithium
- Green revolution

Nigeria & Global Economy – The Interconnectedness

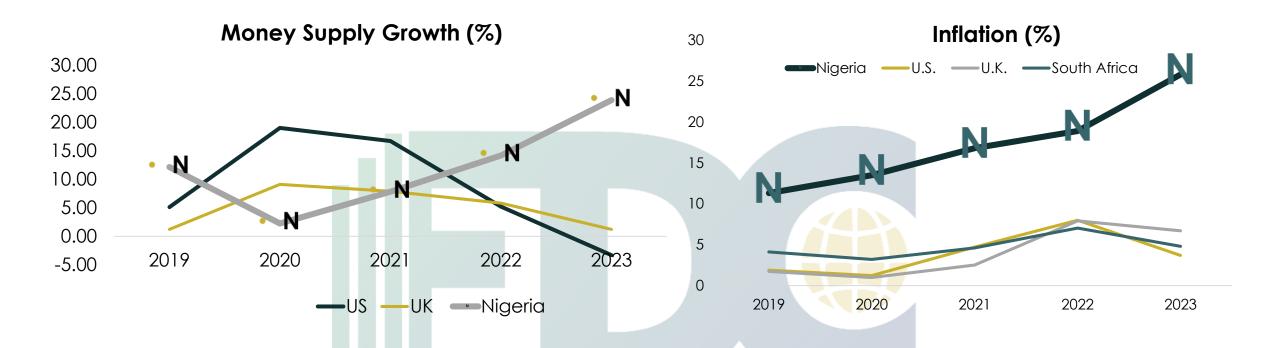


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### NIGERIA'S GDP GROWTH CONSISTENT WITH GLOBAL TREND



#### NIGERIAN INFLATION DEFIES GLOBAL TREND



- Inflationary pressures were exacerbated by the Russia-Ukraine war in 2022
- Gradually easing in most countries but yet to peak in Nigeria
- Tight monetary conditions in most countries but loose monetary conditions in Nigeria

# NIGERIA VS THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

- Nigeria is in a reluctant and imminent integration with the global economy
- Policymakers are confronted with deteriorating macroeconomic performance
- Nigeria is still a bank-based economy but transitioning to a market-based economy
- It puts severe limitation on the effectiveness of monetary policy to fight inflation

KEY INDICATORS	NIGERIA	UNITED STATES	UNITED KINGDOM	SOUTH AFRICA
Stock Market Capitalization (% of GDP)	16.5	153.4	91.1	307.8
Bank Deposits (% of GDP)	22.06	101%	138.74	47.45
Net Foreign Inflow (% of GDP)	-0.04	1.38	1.44	2.17
GROWTH (%)	2.51	2.6	0.4	1.6



...exceeding expectations www.custodianplc.com.ng



Domestic
Developments &
Implications

## NEW CBN LEADERSHIP - HARD TO CATCH A FALLEN KNIFE



Dr. Yemi Cardoso



Emem Nnana Usoro



Muhammed Sani



Philip Ikeazor



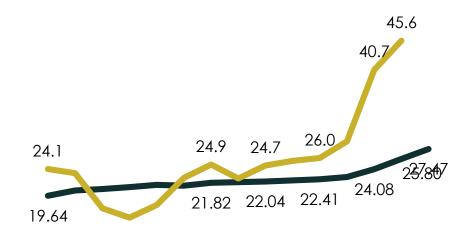
Bala Bello

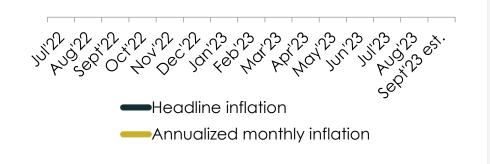
- No more dumb decisions
- Nigerian Senate approves appointment of new CBN leadership
- New CBN Governor Dr Yemi Cardoso
- Four new CBN deputy governors
- Suspended all intervention programs initiated by the former CBN governor
- Indicating a full shift to orthodox monetary policy
- Will support a reduction in the total money supply

# NIGERIAN HEADLINE INFLATION CLIMBS TO 25.80% IN AUGUST

- Price pressures remain elevated in Nigeria
  - Reflecting the consequence of policy changes
- Headline inflation climbed by 1.27% to 25.80% in August from 24.08% in July
- Monthly inflation (reflection of current price changes) increased to 3.18% (annualized at 45.6%)
  - Indicates inflation may be much higher than reported
- Headline inflation is projected to increase further to 27.57% in September

#### **Inflation Rate**





# FOOD BASKET & NON-FOOD ITEMS



Prices of the items in the food basket rising faster than nonfood items

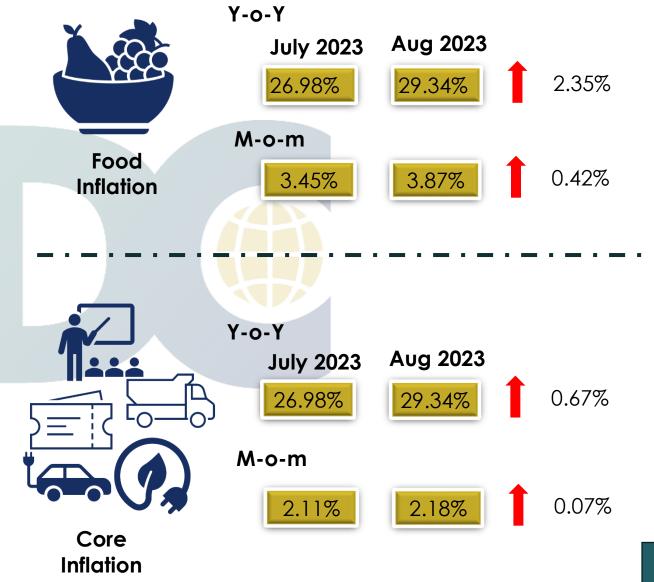


Despite the harvest period



Primarily due to

Post-harvest losses Insecurity in foodproducing regions High logistics costs



#### **INFLATION DATA MORE RELIABLE**

- Inflation data is more reliable
- The synthetic basket still shows a rate higher than 50%



Official basket

25.8%



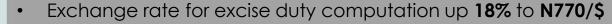
Synthetic basket

52.3%

# MAIN DRIVERS OF INFLATION



#### **Exchange Rate Pass-Through**



Naira lost 28% in September (y-o-y) to N1,008/\$



**Soaring Energy Prices** 

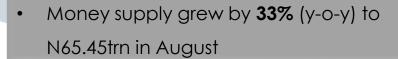


PMS price up 233% to N617/litre (y-o-y)



**Money Supply Saturation** 

Other Supply Constraint





 High raw material costs, borrowing costs, multiple taxes, poor road infrastructure, etc

# CBN MONETARY TIGHTENING LOWERS SYSTEM LIQUIDITY

Banks' opening position averaged N30.17bn in September 2023

An 89.2% decline from the average position of N280.57bn in August

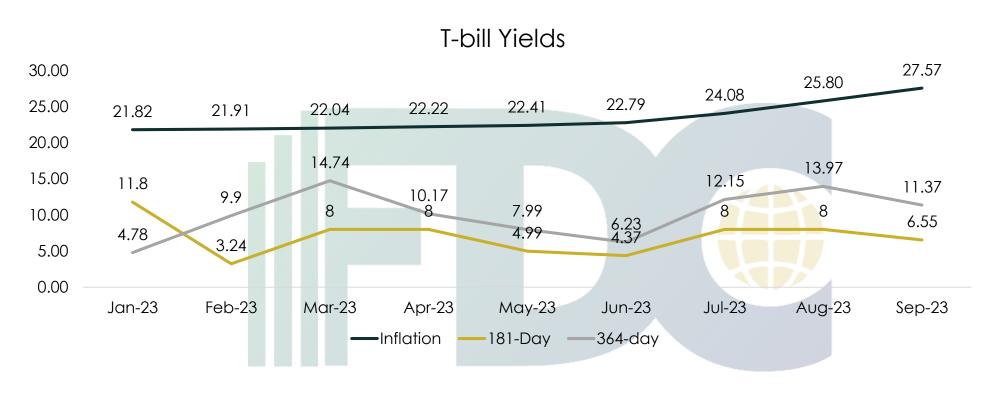
Indicating tight liquidity conditions due to the CBN's monetary tightening

The liquidity squeeze pushed up inter-bank rates to an average of 12.13%p.a from 11.55%p.a

• IBTC PMI has expanded from 50.2 points to 51.1 points in September

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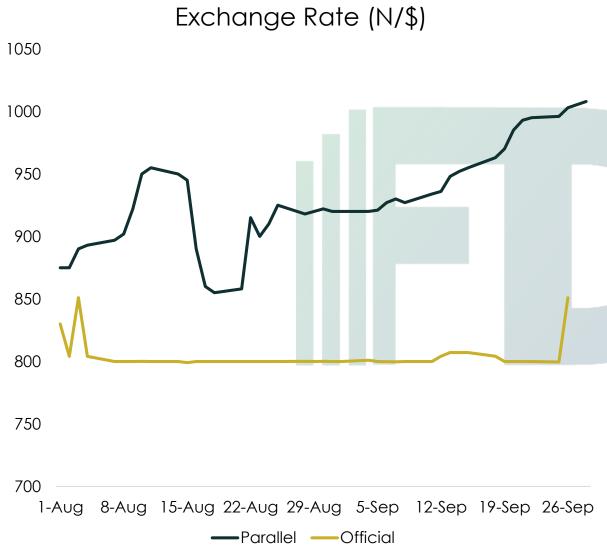
# NEGATIVE REAL RATES OF RETURN ON NIGERIAN GOVT SECURITIES



- Real interest rates remain in the negative territory
  - Interest rate-inflation gap estimated at -14.43%
- Supporting flight to safe havens (dollar investment) and disincentivizing savings

# l

### NAIRA WOBBLING...WOBLING...GONE??



 Naira maintained a depreciation path in September

- Lost 8.73% in September
  - Closing the month at N1,008/\$ from N920/\$
    in August 31st
- Official-parallel gap widened to N208 from N120
- As the CBN fix the exchange rate at N800/\$ at the official window



#### High naira speculation

# WHY IS THE NAIRA DEPRECIATING?



Flight to safe havens due to negative real return on government securities



Low forex liquidity – Gross external reserves down 13% to \$33.24bn in September (y-o-y)despite higher oil prices

Oil production < OPEC quota (1.6mbpd)

Average forex turnover down 8.85% to \$84.60mn



CBN FX forward backlogs: \$6.8bn – increasing demand pressure in the parallel market

# WHAT IS THE FAIR VALUE OF THE NAIRA?

#### Parallel Market Rate

N1,008/\$

#### Official Rate

N800/\$



#### Big Mac

N880/\$



**PPP** 

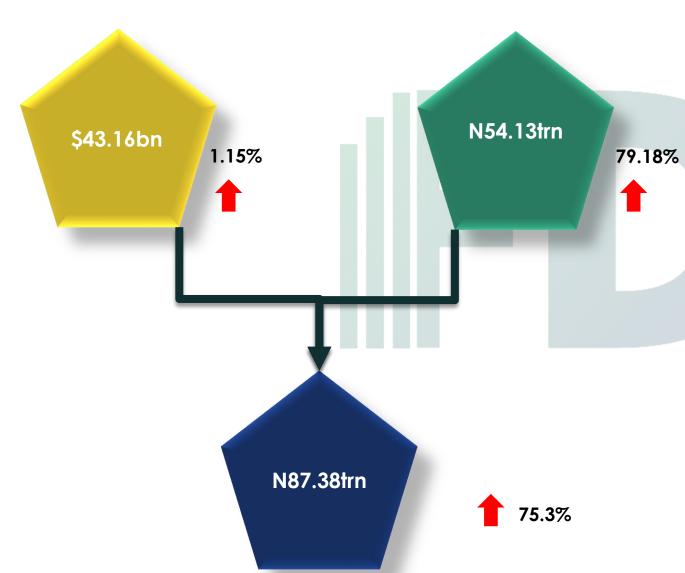
N735.53/\$



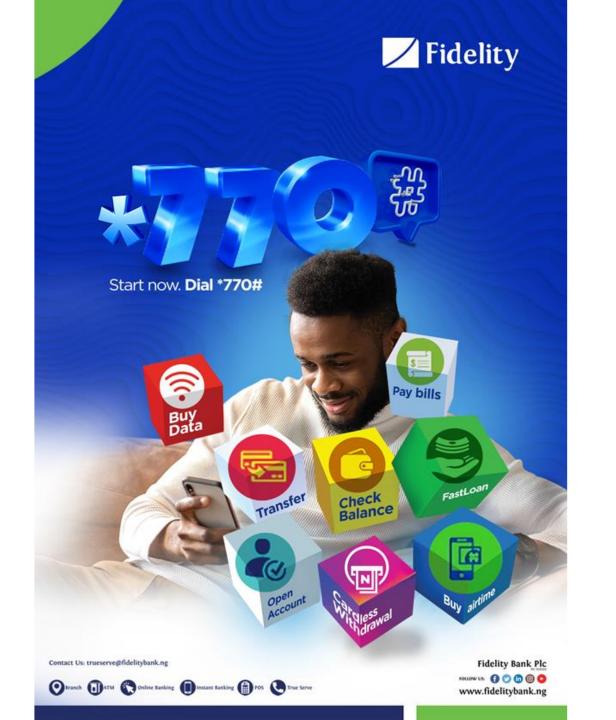
- Naira is undervalued by 1.3%
- Primary due to
  - Market speculation
  - CBN forex controls
  - Naira will recover in 2024 No short cuts

	rchasing Powe		
		Oct-23	
	=N=	US \$	PPP ('=N=/US\$
Bottle of Pepsi (50cl)	200	0.76	26
Beer (60cl)	650	2.17	29
Hamburger (Burger King)	7,500	5.38	139
Indomie (1 unit)	250	0.50	50
Nestle Bottled Water (60cl 1 unit)	150	0.32	46
Big Loaf Bread	1,200	1.78	67
Corrola (2023 Model)	22,500,000	25000.00	90
Irish Spring Soap (1 cake)	900	1.16	77
Chicken Breasts ( 1 kg)	3,650	3.48	104
Trolley	5,500	5.00	110
Peak evaporated milk (pack of 12)	9,000	12.96	69
Uncle Ben's rice (5.44kg 1 pack)	15,550	24.66	63
Eggs (30 large eggs)	2,600	3.20	81
Average PPP			735.5
Naira Price at IEFX			74
PPP (%)			
Decision: Naira is		Undervalued	-1.30
Spot Rate (Parallel)			1

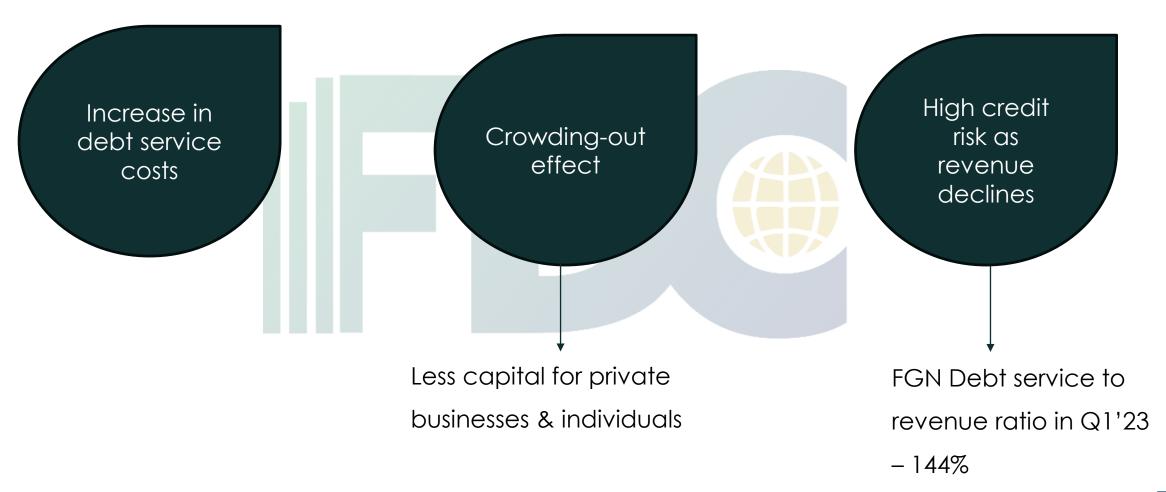
#### NIGERIAN PUBLIC DEBT HITS N87.38TRN – WILL INCREASE FURTHER



- The significant increase in public debt stock is primarily due to:
  - Naira depreciation
    - External debt in Q3 was calculated using N770/\$ compared to N460.35/\$ last quarter
  - Inclusion of CBN's ways & means advances (N22.7trn)
- Debt-to-GDP ratio climbed to 44% in Q2'23 from 25% in Q1'23
- After an IMF policy support & and instrument program
- New money will be judiciously deployed

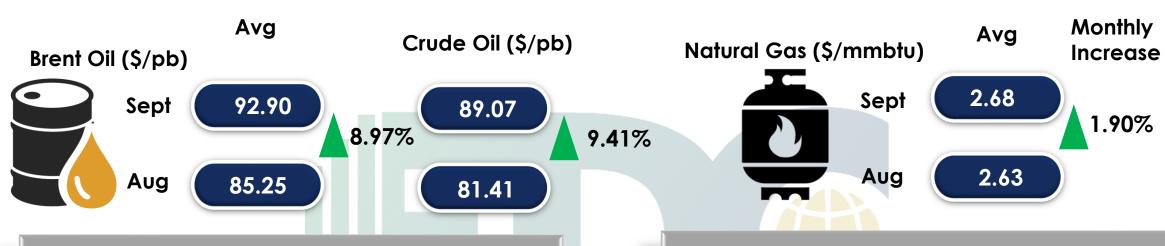


#### NIGERIA IN A DEBT TRAP



You need new debt to free yourself from bad debt

## GLOBAL ENERGY PRICES INCREASING AGAIN IN NOMINAL TERMS



- Tight oil market due to Saudi Arabia's and Russia's production cuts 1.3mbpd
- Improved global demand
  - Constant depletion of US crude oil inventories
  - Marginal increase in consumer spending in China

- Reached 9-month high of \$3.06/MMBtu
- Outages at three major Norwegian facilities
  limited Europe from stocking up gas for winter
  period
- High gas price is despite warmer weather forecasts for October in Europe
- In 1999 terms, the price of oil has fallen by over 10%



### IMPACT OF RISING GLOBAL ENERGY PRICES

Increase in Nigeria's external earnings



FG fuel subsidy payments to increase to avoid a hike in petrol pump price



## SUBSIDY STILL LINGERING - FG PAYS N169.4BN IN AUGUST

- FG disbursed N169.4trn for fuel subsidy payment in August
- After 217% cumulative increase in fuel price to N617/ltr
- And President's announcement of no further increase in fuel price
- Higher oil prices and exchange rate depreciation are pushing up landing cost of PMS
- FG reverts to fuel subsidy payment in order not to further exacerbate inflationary pressures

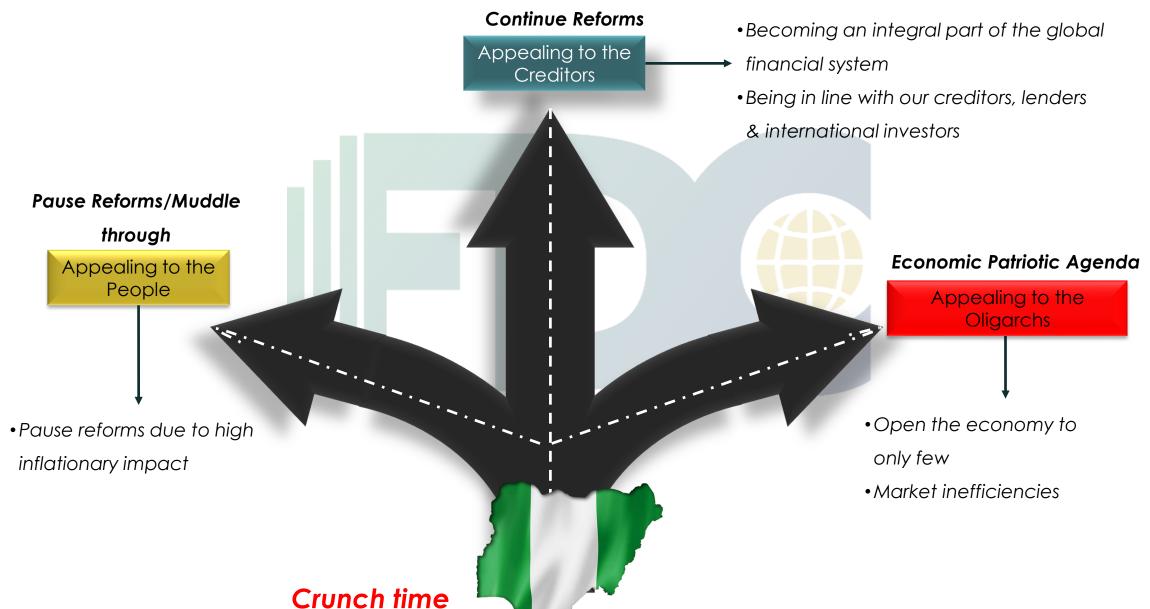


Policy Outlook – Scenario Analysis & Impact

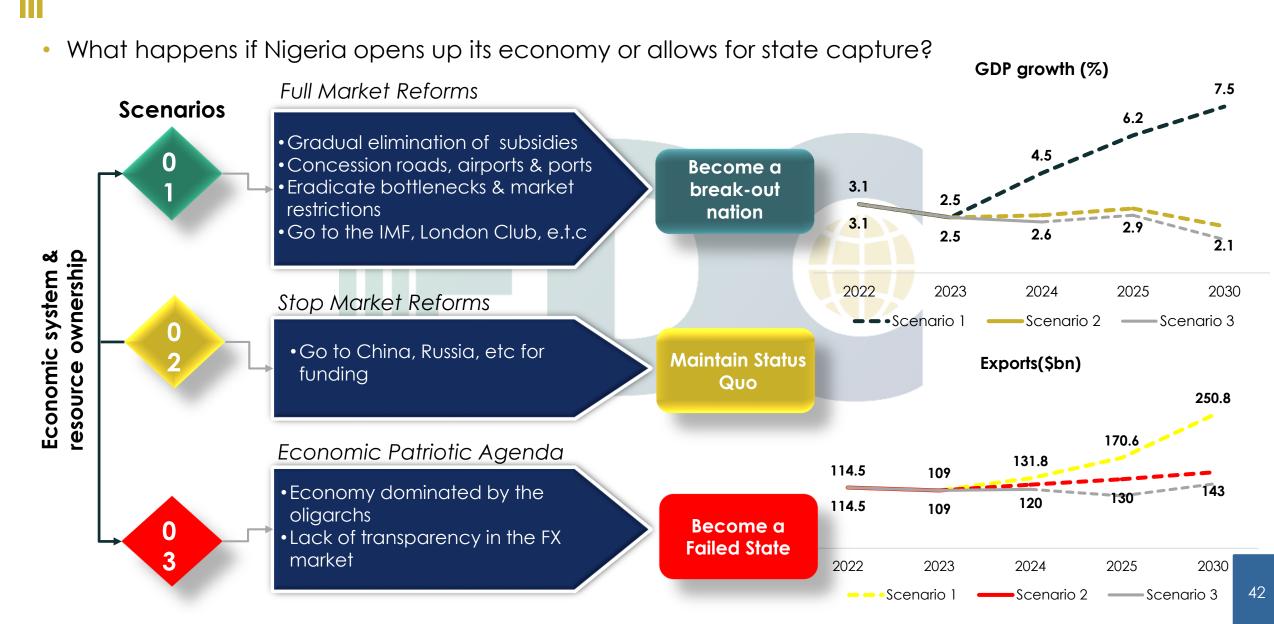




#### **NIGERIA AT CROSSROADS**



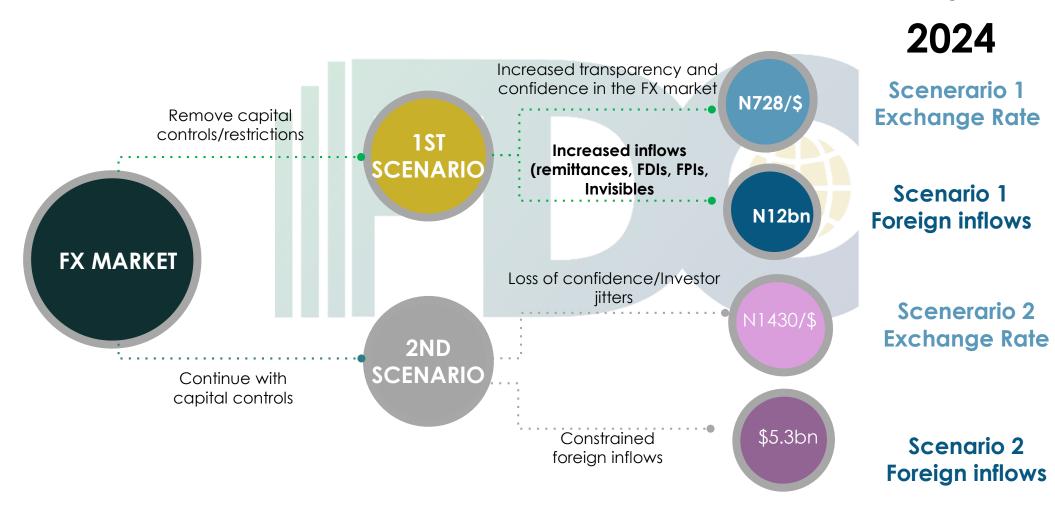
#### THE CHOICE OF ECONOMIC SYSTEM



## F)

## FX MARKET – DETHRONE THE RACKETEERS OR CONTINUE BUSINESS AS USUAL

Removal of capital control and increased transparency in the FX market will strengthen the naira



#### REFORM COCKTAIL





#### Debt Rescheduling

Rescheduling of debt for new monies



## Privitization & Divestment

Sale of key government assets especially in the oil sector



### Fiscal Consolidation

Revenue diversification, widening the tax net & reduction in budget deficit



### Institutional Reforms

Reforms of institutions like CBN, FIRS, NNPC e.t.c



## Monetary policy & FX market reform

Transparent & efficient forex market



#### Public-Private Patnership to increase

More road/airport concessioning

#### NIGERIA NEEDS TO COME CLEAN

- Official data are either inaccurate or incomplete
- Inaccurate data will lead to incorrect policies & worse outcomes



#### CBN HOUSECLEANING – NEXT POLICY STEPS







Clear Separation of Monetary Policy From Banking Regulations



Increased Focus Of The CBN
To Maintain Price Stability &
Exchange Rate Management



### FISCAL POLICY OUTLOOK (SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM)



Preparation of 2024 budget



Increase oil production towards the OPEC quota (1.6mbpd)



External debt rescheduling - \$43.16bn



Meeting with the Multilaterals for long-term funding







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# MACROECONOMIC FORECAST – 2024/25

- Sustained policy changes will have short-term pains (FY'23 & Q1'24)
  - High inflation (year-end: 28%) and lower pace of economic growth (2.2%)
- The efficient utilization of revenue gains will boost GDP growth, increase investments & reduce fiscal pressures
  - GDP to grow by 4.5%
  - Fiscal deficit to decline to less than 4.5%
  - Foreign investment to spike to \$12bn
  - Exchange rate to appreciate

Key indicators						
	2022	2023*	2024*	2025*		
Real GDP growth (%)	3.3	2.5	4.5	6.5		
Consumer price inflation (av; %)	18.8	24.4	17.10	13.5		
Government balance (% of GDP)	-3.3c	-4.8	-4.5	-4.2		
Current-account balance (% of GDP)	0.2	2.1	2.2	1.8		
Exchange rate (avg; N/\$) Official/Parallel	423.3/ 655.30	650/ 850	780.3/ 800	825.9/ 875		

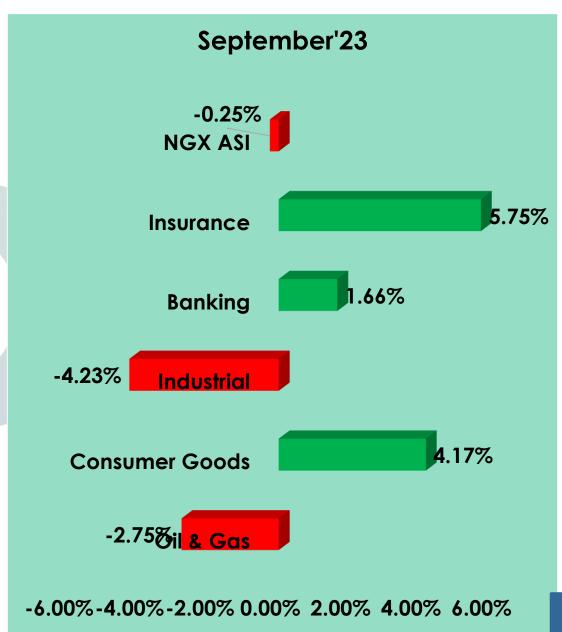


### NGX OUTPERFORMS OTHER MARKETS IN SEPTEMBER 2023

Market	YTD Return	Driver				
	_	Slowing economic growth momentum				
SSE	0.30%	Central Bank to keep interest rate high to curb inflation				
	_	Elevated inflation				
JSE	3.27%	Currency volatility				
GSE	2.84%	Resilient corporate earnings				
	2.04%	Attractive dividend stocks				
NGX	■ 0.2597	Profit Taking activities				
0.25%		Volatility in exchange rate and FTSE downgrade				
S&P 500	4.61%	Hike in Treasury yields rate				
		Fed's higher-for-longer stance on interest rates.				

#### **NGX IN SEPTEMBER 2023**

- NGX closed the month on a bearish level (-0.25%)
- The All Share Index (ASI) inched to 66,382.14 during the month
- Market Capitalisation declined to ₦36.37trn
- Loss was driven by profit-taking activities witnessed in blue-chip companies.
- Market dwindled due to a mix of volatility and stability in the economy and the naira devaluation
- Volatility of effective interest rates



## STOCK MARKET OUTLOOK

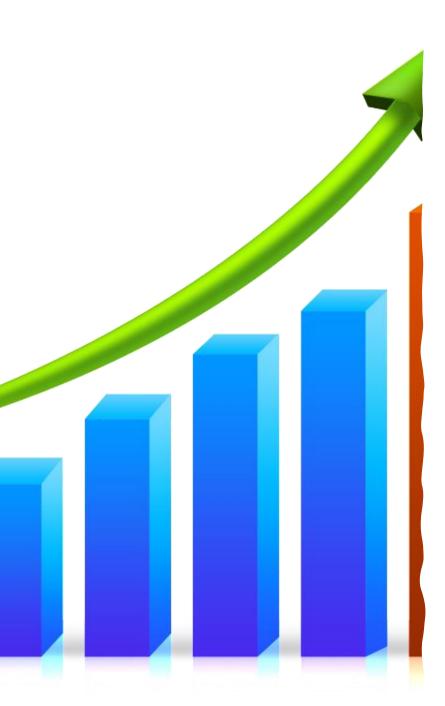
- Low performance of -0.25% in September 2023
- Driven by scarce liquidity in the money market (volatility of exchange rate and stability in the economy)
- Devaluation of the naira and the indefinite postponement of the CBN's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting.
- Profit Taking activities



## STOCK MARKET OUTLOOK

- Expect the equities market mixed performance in October.
- Attractive fixed income yield
- Expect stability in the economy





#### SECTORS THAT WILL THRIVE

- Telecommunications & PSB's
- Agriculture
- Food processing & storage
- Hotels & Hospitality
- Insurance
- Distilleries & spirits
- Airport handling companies

- Infrastructure & road concessioning
- Construction

## SECTORS THAT WILL STRUGGLE

- Retail Banking
- Carbonated soft drinks
- Aviation
- Flour milling
- Consumer retail
- Road transportation







#### **VALUE OF TRANSACTIONS**

In September, the total value of transaction rose to an all-time high of

N54.51trn

navmonta

- Compared to the previous month's total (N54.36trn), it rose 0.28%
- The direction of the e-payment platforms was mixed
- With the POS transactions declining for the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive month
  - Due to increased appetite for bank transactions as network issues wanes
  - And the increase in POS charges by the operators
- We expect the value of transactions to sustain upward trend in the coming month due to the increased adoption of digital mode of

Channels	Aug'23 (N'bn)	Aug'23 (N'bn)	% Change	
Cheques	269.53	260.63	-3.30	
POS	864.62	728.66	-15.72	
NEFT	2,324.31	2,454.55	5.60	
NIP	50,898.91	51,066.46	0.33	
Total	54,357.36	54,510.30	0.28	

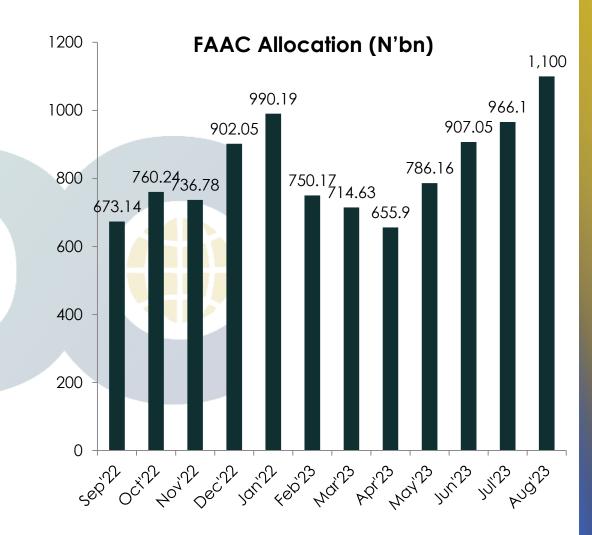
#### Value of Transactions (N'trn)





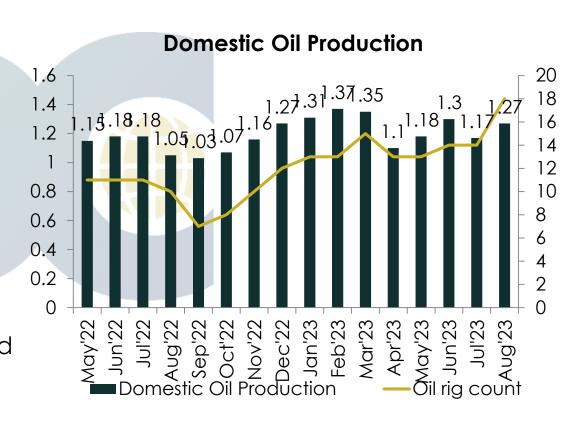
#### MONEY ILLUSION OR HIGHER FAAC OR BOTH??

- FAAC shared a sum of N1.1trn to the three tiers of government is September
  - An increase of 13.86% when compared to N966.11bn in the previous month
- The spike in FAAC allocation was majorly due to significant increases in VAT, Import and Excise Duties, and EMTL
- The total FAAC comprised statutory revenue of N357.398 billion, VAT revenue of N321.941 billion, EMTL revenue of N14.102 billion, Exchange Difference revenue of N 229.568 billion, and Augmentation of N177.092 billion
- Higher oil prices are expected to boost FAAC allocation in the coming month



#### **DOMESTIC OIL PRODUCTION**

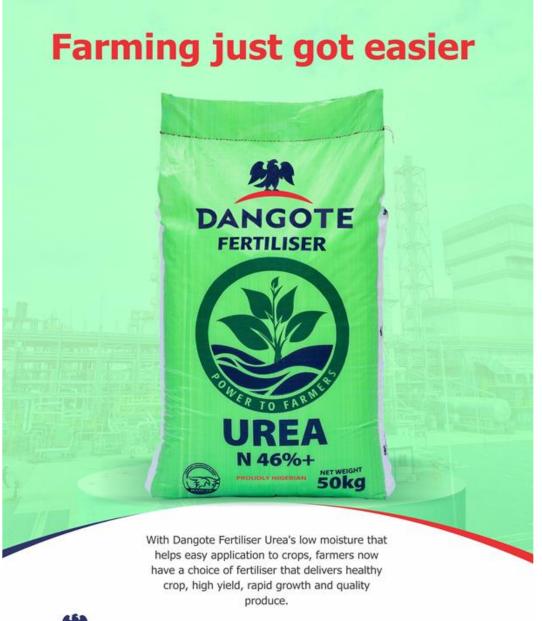
- Oil production increased by 8.55% to 1.27mbpd in August from 1.17mbpd in July
  - As the oil rig count climbed to the highest level (18) in over three years.
- This represents a 28.57% increase compared to the previous month (14)
  - And a year-on-year increase of 80%
- The rise in oil production was supported by the sustained efforts by the government to curb oil theft and pipeline vandalism



#### SHIPS AWAITING BERTH

Ships Awaiting Berth	Feb'23	Mar'23	Apr'23	May'23	Jun'23	Jul'23	Aug'23	Sep'23
Apapa	2	7	2	4	7	6	1	2
Lekki Deep Sea	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	1
Tincan	3	0	1	3	2	1	2	0
Rivers	0	3	2	2	2	1	1	1
Calabar	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warri	3	6	3	2	1	1	8	5
Onne	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	8	19	8	11	12	9	12	9

- The total number of ships awaiting berth in September declined to 9 from 12 in the previous month
  - Due to efforts by the FG to decongest major ports in the country
- The FG has begun the first-ever train cargo trip carrying containers from Apapa Port to Ibadan
  - Aimed at reducing congestion at the port and enhancing efficiency in Nigeria's water transportation sector
- Onne port remains underutilized









#### **GLOBAL AVIATION UPDATE - IATA**



Robust growth in domestic RPKs bolsters global recovery



Domestic passenger traffic reached an all-time high and rose 8.3% over 2019 levels

Driven by the surge in PR China, where domestic RPKs grew by 22.5% relative to 2019 figures



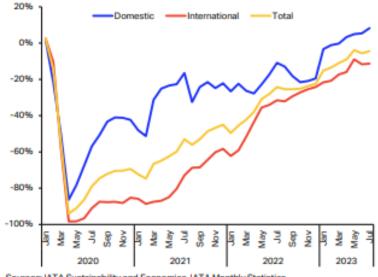
Airlines record strong passenger demand during summer travel

Total traffic during the summer travel period rose 26.2% from 2022, bringing global traffic to 95.6% of pre-COVID levels



In Q2 2023, global origin-destination (O-D) passenger traffic grew 28.9% compared to Q2 2022 levels

Chart 2 - Global domestic and international revenue passenger-kilometers (RPKs), YoY% change vs. 2019



Sources: IATA Sustainability and Economics, IATA Monthly Statistics

### GLOBAL AVIATION UPDATE - IATA

- Air cargo maintains recovery momentum despite headwinds
- Industry air cargo demand decreased by 0.8% reflecting the sustained improvement in cargo tonnekilometers (CTKs) and the low base of CTKs in 2022.
- Asia Pacific airlines experienced their first year-on-year growth in cargo traffic since March 2022,
  - driven by increased trade with other regions and significant market improvements within Asia
- Airline IATA exchange rate remained at N800/\$
- IATA embarks on quest to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050
- Value of trapped funds of foreign airlines operating in Nigeria reduced to \$783 million.

### DOMESTIC TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS

- Ibom Air To commence international flights in October
- Air Peace to commence Jeddah operations in October
- United Nigeria Airlines to wet-lease an Airbus from Bulgaria to boost domestic capacity during the IATA winter season
- Ethiopian Airlines pledges to support Nigerian travel industry





#### **TOURISM UPDATE**

- The global travel and tourism sector forecasted to reach \$9.5 trillion in 2023, 5% short of its gross domestic product contribution in 2019 -WTTC
- Nigeria's tourism industry is expected to grow significantly in the coming years, with a projected revenue total of \$2.95 billion in 2023
  - Expected to create 2.6 million new jobs over the next decade, doubling the number of those employed within the sector by 2032



### AFRICAN TOURISM UPDATE

 The Moroccan tourism sector generated \$4.187 billion in foreign currency in the first five months of 2023

- International tourist arrivals in Kenya grew by 32% in the first half of 2023.
- Number of tourists in Egypt increased to 7 million
  - Due to the drop in the Egyptian pound exchange rates to foreign currencies
- Akwa Ibom declared as the "new spirit of tourism" in Nigeria by the
   Federation of Tourism Association in Nigeria (FTAN)





## POLITICAL UPDATE

- Not everything that shines is a star
- APC tries to consolidate its hold on power
- Forgetting the primary rule of power politics
- It is easier to lead than to dominate
- The transition from being a regional (S.W) leadership to being a national franchise is proving to be very difficult
- The other federating units (regions) are untrusting of the power dynamics
- INEC will have difficulty in conducting the November elections in Imo, Bayelsa & Kogi

## POLITICAL UPDATE

- The police and judiciary are not trusted by the people
- A scenario of Haiti-style elections of Papa Doc will spell doom to Nigerian democracy
- Election petition tribunals have lost all credibility
- Just as the judiciary is perceived by the public
- The political establishment across all parties is lacking in credibility and depth
- As more ministers are being nominated, the quality of the team is falling
- All eyes will be on the Supreme Court
- But no surprises are expected
- Status quo will be the ritual just like at the MPC
- You cannot soar like an eagle if you fly with turkeys



### You have the upper hand interconnecting within MDXi

We are the #1 digital hub in West Africa. MDXi provides a rich, interconnected ecosystem of network operators, carriers, enterprises, content and cloud services providers, at our carrier-neutral data centers.





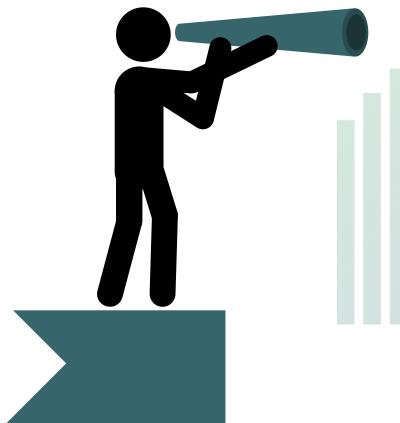








#### OUTLOOK FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER



Headline inflation will increase to 27.57% in September

Month-on-month inflation to fall marginally to 2.78% from 3.18% in August

 The stock market performance will depend more on exchange rate gains by banks and translation losses by manufacturers

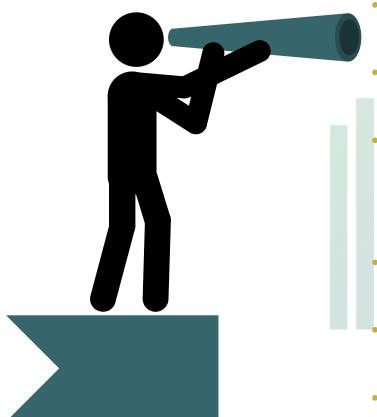
The MPC will hold its first meeting under the new team in November

Will increase interest rates (MPR) by 25 basis points

The CBN will have to move from publishing gross external reserves to the net external reserves as widely practiced



#### **OUTLOOK FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER**



The CBN will clear approximately 20-25% of the backlog of forward contracts

Oil production will increase to 1.35mbpd

Oil price will trade between \$90-95pb as China continues to prime the pump of growth

The Naira will appreciate towards N990/\$ from the current N1,008/\$

Price of diesel will fall to N900 per litre

Petrol PMS price will remain unchanged

The price of cement will stay at N6,500 in the market and N4,000 on television



People who are late are Jollier than those waiting for them

- E. V. Lucas

Etiquette is the noise you don't make when you are eating soup

- Unknown Author

If you are afraid of loneliness don't get married

- Anton Chekhow

Parliamentarians (NASS) only meet two types of people, people with problems and people who are right

- Unknown Author

Maternity is a matter of fact, paternity is a matter of opinion - Walter Bagheot

An optimist is a girl who mistakes a bulge for a curve

- Ring Lardner

The future is that period time in which our affairs prosper, our friends are true and our happiness is assured

- Ambrose Bierce

Middle age is when your broad mind and your narrow waist begin to change places

- Joseph Cossmann

Youth is when you are allowed to stay up late on New Year's eve. Middle age is when you are forced to

- Bill Vaughan

Face book is for people who cannot face books

- Madeleine Beard

It is better to keep your mouth shut and appear stupid than to open it and remove all doubt

- Mark Twain

Statistics is like a bikini, what they reveal is suggestive, but what they conceal is vital

- Agron Levenstein

Don't cry because its over, just smile because it happened

- Dr. Seuss

Gratitude is a currency, we can spend without fear of Bankruptcy

- Anonymous

Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs but not every man's greed

– Mahatma Gandhi

What we do for ourselves dies with us what we do for others and the world remains and is immortal

– Albert Pike

Our vanity is the constant enemy of our dignity

Anne Sophie Swetchine

Success is not a doorway it is a staircase

- Dottie Walters

There are 3 types of people, those who make things happen, those who watch things happen and those who wondered what happened

- Tommy Lasonda

Fortune favours the bold - Terrence

Fortune reveres the brave and overwhelms the cowardly

– Marcus Seneca

If the risk-reward ratio is right, you can make big money buying trouble - Anon

Results are what you expect, consequences are what you get - Anon

Life is the art of drawing sufficient conclusions from insufficient premises



Many persons of high intelligence have notoriously poor judgement –

Sydney Harris

It is better to be a failure at something you LOVE than to be a success at something you hate

George Burns

# THANK YOU

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