### **Stock Recommendation**

Company	*Fair Value (KES)	Closing Price (KES)	Upside/downside (%)	Current Rating
Safaricom	33.13	14.90	122.3%	BUY
Equity bank	47.71	45.95	3.8%	HOLD
KCB bank	66.26	39.05	69.7%	BUY
Co-op bank	20.33	14.05	44.7%	BUY
ABSA bank	11.97	15.35	-22.0%	SELL
StanChart bank	262.64	241.50	8.8%	HOLD
NCBA bank	36.1	44.05	-18.0%	SELL
I&M bank	35.09	29.85	17.6%	BUY
Stanbic bank	84.7	127.75	-33.7%	SELL
DTB bank	92.65	52.50	76.5%	BUY
EABL	151.28	180.00	-16.0%	SELL
Bamburi Cement	44.37	63.00	-29.6%	SELL
BAT Kenya	460.00	351.00	31.1%	BUY

# Kenya Market Summary

### Equity market commentary and outlook

• During the week, Absa Bank, Stanbic Bank, Stanchart Bank and KCB Bank released their Q3 2024 results. I&M Bank touched a five-week high on improved local demand. Local investors dominated trading for the eleventh consecutive week at 50.1% of trading activity. Foreign investors emerged as net sellers for the seventh week straight at USD 42.5k (KES 5.5m). Safaricom registered the highest net foreign outflows at USD 0.3m (KES 41.9m), while Equity Bank marked the highest net foreign inflows at USD 0.5m (KES 63.5m).

# Debt market commentary and outlook

• Total subscription rates declined to 321.8% from 398.1% the preceding week. Investors remained skewed on the 91-Day T-Bill. Activity declined for the 91-Day T-Bill and the 182-Day T-Bill while it improved for the 364-Day T-Bill. The yield on all three T-Bills fell, with the 91-Day T-Bill maintaining an eighteen-week losing streak and the 182-Day T-Bill and the 364-Day T-Bill falling repeatedly for the seventeenth week.

# **Key Market Indicators**

<u>Index</u>	Level	<u>1w</u>	<u>1m</u>	<u>3m</u>	<u>6m</u>	<u>12m</u>	<u>ytd (%)</u>
Kenya NSE 20 Index	1,891.2	13.9%	11.9%	24.9%	31.0%	23.2%	26.0%
Kenya NASI	112.7	7.7%	5.8%	21.5%	31.5%	9.4%	22.4%

Source: NSE, Kestrel Research

#### NSE versus other markets

Index Returns (USD)	<u>1w (%)</u>	<u>1m (%)</u>	3m (%)	<u>6m (%)</u>	<u>12m (%)</u>	<u>ytd (%)</u>
Nairobi All Share Index	-2.0%	-0.8%	10.1%	-4.3%	41.0%	2.2%
Johannesburg Index	2.5%	-6.4%	3.4%	10.7%	7.0%	-4.6%
Nigeria Stock Exchange	-1.6%	-3.1%	-0.7%	-7.9%	-18.6%	-1.0%
Ghana Stock Exchange	1.1%	8.0%	-2.9%	8.4%	-3.7%	1.9%
Egyptian Stock Exchange	-3.1%	1.6%	1.4%	7.1%	-30.1%	3.5%
MSCI EFM ex SA Index	-1.0%	-0.3%	-1.2%	2.8%	7.3%	40.2%

# Other market statistics

Currencies	Level	<u>1w (%)</u>	<u>1m (%)</u>	3m (%)	<u>6m (%)</u>	12m (%)	<u>ytd (%)</u>
USD/KES	129.50	-0.2%	-0.2%	0.0%	2.8%	15.3%	2.6%
USD/ZAR	18.11	0.4%	-2.9%	0.2%	4.0%	2.0%	-2.2%
USD/EGP	49.67	-0.6%	-1.2%	0.0%	-3.4%	-34.5%	0.0%
USD/NGN	1696.70	-1.8%	-1.2%	-4.1%	-6.6%	-43.4%	9.4%
USD/GHS	15.80	0.9%	1.3%	-3.2%	-6.6%	-17.9%	-0.3%

#### NSE most active counters

Counter	Value Traded (KES m)	Foreign Investor Net Buying/(Selling) (KES m)	Foreign Investor Activity as % of total	Weekly Price Change (%)	YTD (%)	% Below 12-month high	% Above 12- month low
Safaricom	549.5	-41.9	77.2%	-1.7%	7.2%	-22.8%	14.6%
KCB Bank	206.8	12.2	26.9%	-0.1%	78.3%	-1.3%	109.9%
Equity Bank	190.6	62.9	62.3%	-7.9%	36.6%	-8.1%	36.6%
Coop Bank	52.1	0.0	0.0%	-3.1%	23.2%	-6.6%	28.3%
I&M Bank	44.0	-1.0	1.5%	6.0%	70.6%	-12.8%	74.1%

# KCB Bank 3Q24 EPS, +48.9% y/y, Ahead of our estimates.

KCB bank released its 3Q24 results. Reported annualized EPS – KES 18.99, +48.9% y/y, bolstered by increased total income (+21.9% y/y) and a lower effective tax (20.3% vs 24.3%). Earnings came in 11.0% ahead of expectations on the back of higher-than-expected forex income (+20.8%), lower-than-expected loan loss provisions (-24.6%) and lower effective tax.

#### **Summary Performance Table**

	Reported	Forecast	Variance
NIM	6.7%	7.6%	-0.9%
NIR growth	40.5%	23.9%	16.6%
NFI mix	35.1%	30.7%	4.4%
NFI growth	18.3%	9.7%	8.6%
CoR	1.9%	2.6%	-0.7%
CTI	47.4%	45.6%	1.8%
OpEx Growth	13.8%	11.4%	2.4%
EPS	18.99%	17.11%	11.0%
DPS	0.00%	0.00%	0.0%
Net Loan growth	0.5%	0.8%	-0.3%
Deposit growth	-7.1%	-2.1%	-9.2%
NPL Ratio	17.0%	20.4%	-3.4%
NPL Coverage*	58.5%	42.1%	16.4%
ROE	24.5%	21.5%	3.0%

<sup>\*</sup>CBK Coverage

# What stood out for us?

• Lower loan loss provisions: While the loan provisions went up 12.0% y/y, we had forecasted a faster growth owing to the higher credit risk and KCB's relatively greater exposure to government -related suppliers and contractors amid the government's fiscal strains. Loan loss provisions came in 24.6% below our estimates.

#### Impact to our investment thesis

• Going forward, we expect to revise upwards our growth outlook for forex income for FY24 (20.8% ahead of estimates), but maintain the elevated cost of risk outlook. KCB bank is currently trading at a P/B of 0.7x. Our current estimate of fair value of KES 74.22, implies an upside potential of 88.9% - a BUY rating.

# ABSA Bank 3Q24 EPS, +19.4% y/y, Above our Expectations

ABSA bank announced its 3Q24 results. Reported EPS – KES 2.71, +19.4% y/y, driven by both net interest income (+17.7% y/y) and non-funded income (+13.0% y/y), but pulled back by higher operating costs (+13.7% y/y) and loan loss provisions (+18.7% y/y). Earnings beat our estimates by 17.6% largely on account of better-than-expected non-funded income (+26.9%).

#### **Summary Performance Table**

	Reported	Forecast	Variance
NIM	9.9%	9.1%	0.8%
NIR growth	17.7%	17.5%	0.2%
NFI mix	26.2%	21.9%	4.3%
NFI growth	13.0%	-11.0%	24.0%
CoR	3.0%	3.2%	-0.2%
CTI	37.8%	40.2%	-2.4%
OpEx Growth	13.7%	13.9%	-0.2%
EPS	2.71%	2.30%	17.6%
DPS	0.00%	0.00%	0.0%
Net Loan growth	-5.9%	-5.1%	-5.8%
Deposit growth	-0.7%	2.4%	-3.1%
NPL Ratio	12.1%	12.2%	-0.1%
NPL Coverage*	58.4%	62.2%	-3.8%
ROE	25.4%	22.5%	2.9%

<sup>\*</sup>CBK Coverage

#### What stood out for us?

• **Higher-than-expected non-funded income:** non-funded income grew 13.0% y/y ahead of our expected decline of 11.0% on account of better results from the forex income line. We attribute the forex income growth to customer activity.

# Impact to our investment thesis

• Going forward, we expect to model growth in the forex income. ABSA bank is currently trading at a P/B of 1.1x. Our current estimate of fair value of KES 11.52, implies a downside potential of 25.2% - a SELL recommendation.

# Stanchart Bank 3Q24 EPS, +63.5% y/y, In Line with Expectations;

StanChart bank published its 3Q24 results. Reported EPS: KES 41.60, +63.5% y/y, largely driven by total income (+32.7% y/y) and cost control (+5.1% y/y). Earnings largely aligned at a modest 2.1% above our estimates.

### **Summary Performance Table**

	Reported	Forecast	Variance
NIM	9.9%	10.2%	-0.3%
NIR growth	17.0%	27.1%	-10.1%
NFI mix	36.4%	32.1%	4.3%
NFI growth	73.5%	55.3%	18.2%
CoR	2.6%	2.1%	0.5%
CTI	37.5%	37.6%	-0.1%
OpEx Growth	5.1%	7.3%	-2.2%
EPS	41.60%	40.73%	2.1%
DPS	0.00%	0.00%	0.0%
Net Loan growth	5.4%	-6.0%	11.4%
Deposit growth	-4.8%	-15.1%	10.3%
NPL Ratio	7.4%	14.0%	-6.6%
NPL Coverage*	76.9%	54.7%	22.2%
ROE	31.7%	31.3%	0.4%

<sup>\*</sup>CBK Coverage

#### What stood out for us?

• **NPL ratio declines to a 10-year low**: StanChart NPL ratio fell to 7.4%, marking the lowest levels in the last 10 years. We highlight that the NPL portfolio halved year-on-year, which we could attribute to either upgrades or write-offs.

### Impact to our investment thesis

• Going forward, we expect to slightly bring down our NPL ratio outlook. StanChart bank is currently trading at a P/B of 1.3x. Our current estimate of fair value of KES 245.66, implies an upside potential of 4.0% - a HOLD recommendation.

# Stanbic Bank 3Q24 EPS, +9.3% y/y, Above our Expectations

Stanbic bank announced its 3Q24 results. Reported EPS – KES 25.66, +9.3% y/y, driven by net interest income (+4.8% y/y) and lower loan loss provisions (-40.2% y/y). Earnings came in 27.1% ahead of estimates mainly on the back of lower-than-expected loan loss provisions (-23.6%).

### **Summary Performance Table**

	Reported	Forecast	Variance
NIM	5.4%	4.6%	0.8%
NIR growth	4.8%	-6.2%	11.0%
NFI mix	35.3%	36.5%	-1.2%
NFI growth	-17.8%	-22.6%	4.8%
CoR	1.5%	1.7%	-0.2%
CTI	42.9%	44.3%	-1.4%
OpEx Growth	-5.0%	-10.8%	5.8%
EPS	25.66%	20.19%	27.1%
DPS	0.00%	0.00%	0.0%
Net Loan growth	-12.8%	-5.4%	-7.4%
Deposit growth	7.2%	10.3%	-3.1%
NPL Ratio	10.2%	9.7%	0.5%
NPL Coverage*	69.0%	71.0%	-2.0%
ROE	22.0%	17.6%	4.4%

<sup>\*</sup>CBK Coverage

#### What stood out for us?

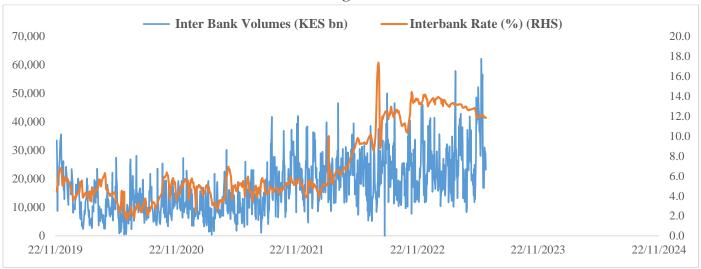
• Lower-than-expected loan loss provision: loan loss provisions was reduced by 40.2% y/y, falling short of our estimates by 23.6%. We had assumed a slower decline. We note that the reduction was partly informed by the appreciation of the KES, lowering the impact from NPLs in foreign currency. About 45%-50% of the NPLs are foreign-currency denominated.

## Impact to our investment thesis

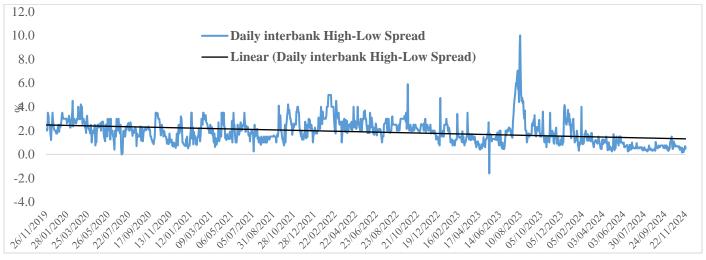
• Going forward, we expect to maintain a higher cost of risk as credit risk remains alive. Stanbic bank is currently trading at a P/B of 0.8x. Our current estimate of fair value of KES 118.55, implies a downside potential of 6.7% - a HOLD recommendation.

# **Key Rates and Spreads**

Inter-bank Rates decline for the second week straight.

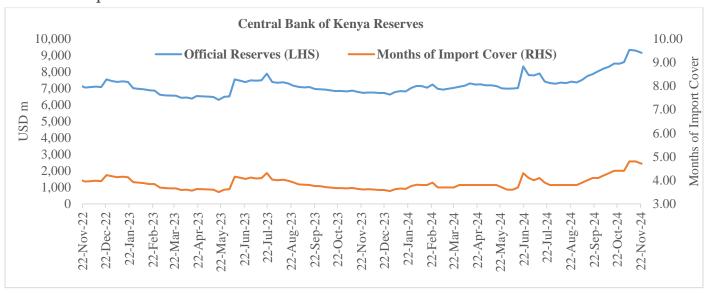


Source: CBK Interbank spreads widen for the fifth week straight.



Source: CBK

Months of import cover and CBK FX reserves decline week on week.

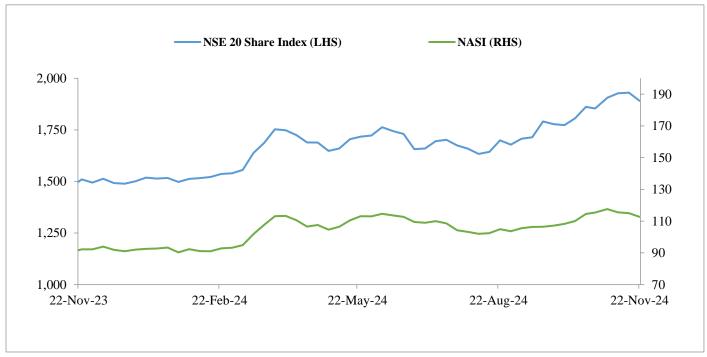


Source: CBK

# Equity market trading commentary

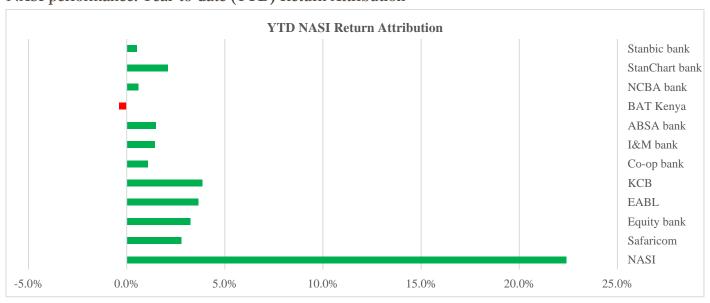
Market turnover improved by 83.6% to close at USD 9.9m (KES 1.3 bn). The NASI retreated by 2.0% week-on-week to halt at 112.74, sustaining a three-week losing streak. The NSE-20 shed 0.2% to stop at 1891.18. Foreign investors emerged as net sellers repeatedly for the seventh week at USD 42.5k (KES 5.5m). Safaricom registered the highest net foreign outflows at USD 0.3m (KES 41.9m), while Equity Bank marked the highest net foreign inflows at USD 0.5m (KES 63.5m).

### Market performance over the past 12 months



Source: NSE

# NASI performance: Year-to-date (YTD) Return Attribution



Source: Kestrel Research

# Debt market trading commentary

Total subscription rates declined to 321.8% from 398.1% the preceding week. Investors remained skewed on the 91-Day T-Bill. Activity declined for the 91-Day T-Bill and the 182-Day T-Bill and improved for the 364-Day T-Bill. The yield on all three T-Bills fell, with the 91-Day T-Bill maintaining an eighteen-week losing streak and the 182-Day T-Bill and the 364-Day T-Bill falling repeatedly for the seventeenth week.

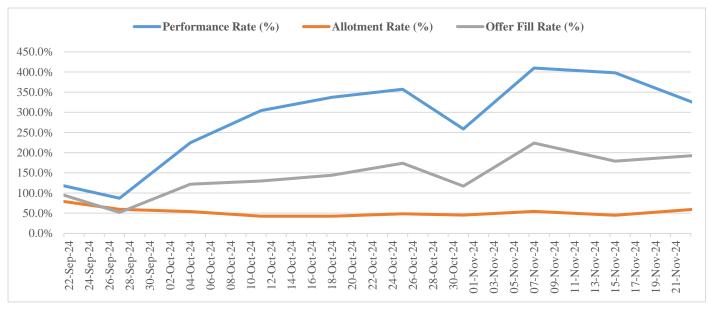
#### Week ending 22-November-2024

The CBK also offered KES 4.0bn for the 91-Day T-Bill and KES 10.0bn each for the 182-Day T-Bill and the 364-Day T-Bill. It received bids worth KES 24.9 bn for the 91-Day T-Bill, implying a subscription rate of 623.34%. It accepted bids worth KES 13.1 bn at an average yield of 12.034 % (-75.7 bps w/w).

The 182-Day T-Bill received bids worth KES 17.1 bn, implying a performance rate of 171.41%. It accepted bids worth KES 12.5 bn at an average yield of 12.21 % (-84.9 bps w/w).

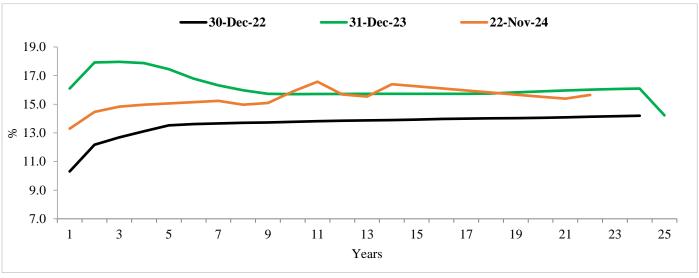
The 364-Day T-Bill received bids worth KES 35.2 bn, implying a performance rate of 351.62%. It accepted bids worth KES 20.8 bn at an average yield of 13.295% (-60.4 bps w/w).

**T-Bills Performance rates** 



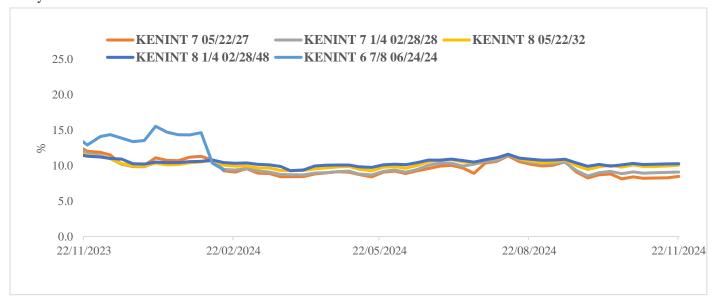
Source: CBK

# Kenya Domestic Yield Curve



Source: CBK

# Kenya Eurobond Yields rise week-on-week across all tenors.



Source: Bloomberg

# Top counters by market capitalization

Company	Sector	Year end	12 M High	12 M Low	Price	YTD %	Market <sup>1</sup> cap (USD m)	Weighting	EPS	DPS	NAV	P/E ratio x	Div yld %	P/B ratio x	ROE %	Daily Trading <sup>1</sup> vol (USD)
Safaricom	Telecom	Mar	19.30	13.00	14.90	7.2	4,607	33.7%	1.06	1.20	4.7	14.0	8.1	3.2	22.7	783,003
Equity Bank	Banking	Dec	50.00	33.65	45.95	36.6	1,338	9.8%	20.58	4.00	48.7	2.2	8.7	0.9	42.2	206,745
EA Breweries	Breweries	Jun	199.75	100.00	180.00	57.9	1,098	8.0%	11.38	6.00	27.1	15.8	3.3	6.6	42.0	147,257
Co-op Bank	Banking	Dec	15.05	10.95	14.05	23.2	636	4.6%	6.91	1.50	18.4	2.0	10.7	0.8	37.5	42,043
NCBA Bank	Banking	Dec	45.20	35.90	44.05	13.1	560	4.1%	13.31	3.00	53.7	3.3	6.8	0.8	24.8	29,243
Absa Bank	Banking	Dec	15.55	10.95	15.35	34.1	643	4.7%	3.46	1.55	12.0	4.4	10.1	1.3	28.8	32,369
KCB Bank	Banking	Dec	39.55	18.60	39.05	78.3	968	7.1%	15.79	1.50	68.1	2.5	3.8	0.6	23.2	297,922
StanChart Bank	Banking	Dec	241.50	154.25	241.50	49.1	704	5.1%	38.05	37.00	158.0	6.3	15.3	1.5	24.1	31,879
Stanbic Bank	Banking	Dec	135.75	101.75	127.75	17.5	390	2.8%	31.16	15.00	140.8	4.1	11.7	0.9	22.1	16,826
BAT Kenya	Tobacco	Dec	436.75	331.75	351.00	-13.9	271	2.0%	48.82	54.02	163.8	7.2	15.4	2.1	29.8	78,725
BK Group	Banking	Dec	37.00	30.15	32.70	-8.7	226	1.7%	11.45	3.28	46.8	2.9	10.0	0.7	24.5	51,085
I&M Holdings	Banking	Dec	34.24	17.15	29.85	70.6	381	2.8%	8.48	3.85	47.8	3.5	12.9	0.6	17.7	27,742
Umeme Ltd.	Power	Dec	16.95	13.35	16.50	3.1	207	1.5%	0.26	0.92	22.0	63.1	5.6	8.0	1.2	3,620
Kenya Airways	Airlines	Dec	3.83	3.83	3.83	0.0	168	1.2%	2.63	-	(14.7)	1.5	-	- 0.4	- (0.2)	-
Bamburi Cement	Cement Power	Dec	82.00	32.10	63.00	75.7	176	1.3%	(0.28)	5.47	82.1	-	98.6	0.1	(0.3)	49,453
KenGen Jubilee Insurance	Insurance	Jun Dec	4.13 200.00	1.96 150.00	4.00 170.00	99.0 -8.1	204 95	1.5% 0.7%	1.03 67.32	0.65 12.00	41.6 613.8	3.9 2.5	16.3 7.1	0.1 0.3	2.5 11.0	45,761 9,980
DTB Bank	Banking	Dec	55.75	43.25	52.50	-o. i 16.5	113	0.7%	25.83	6.00	256.8	2.5	11.4	0.3	10.1	9,960 21,721
Britam	Insurance	Dec	6.38	4.48	5.88	22.8	115	0.8%	1.45	-	9.2	4.1		0.6	15.6	2,127
Total Oil	Oil	Dec	23.75	15.85	20.00	11.1	97	0.7%	5.12	1.92	48.0	3.9	9.6	0.4	10.7	724
Kakuzi	Agric	Dec	440.00	353.50	397.00	3.1	60	0.4%	34.98	24.00	303.5	11.3	6.0	1.3	11.5	2,085
CIC Insurance	Insurance	Dec	2.52	1.98	2.18	-2.7	44	0.3%	0.55	-	3.3	3.9	-	0.7	16.9	1,510
Centum Investment	Finance	Mar	10.05	7.88	9.66	15.0	50	0.4%	(8.95)	0.32	55.8	-	3.3	0.2	(16.1)	15,436
ARM Cement	Cement	Dec	5.55	5.55	5.55	0.0	41	0.3%	(7.77)	-	19.8	-	-	0.3	(39.2)	-
Crown Paints	Manufac.	Dec	40.05	29.50	32.45	-9.0	36	0.3%	(0.47)	4.00	24.1	-	6.3	2.6	(2.0)	49,453
Kenya Re	Insurance	Dec	2.87	1.04	1.11	-41.0	24	0.2%	1.78	0.30	13.4	0.6	27.0	0.1	13.2	31,473
Sasini Tea & Coffee	Agric	Sept	22.00	15.05	15.05	-24.8	26	0.2%	3.11	0.50	61.7	4.8	3.3	0.2	5.0	1,002
Carbacid	Gases	July	24.10	14.55	20.10	34.0	40	0.3%	4.01	1.70	13.6	5.0	8.5	1.5	12.6	7,021
Nation Media	Media	Dec	22.00	12.90	12.90	-35.7	19	0.1%	(5.09)	-	43.1	-	-	0.3	(11.8)	1,407
Kenya Power	Power	Jun	5.24	1.35	4.36	207.0	66	0.5%	15.41	0.70	29.1	0.3	16.1	0.1	52.9	55,805
TPSEA Serena	Tourism	Dec	20.05	11.50	14.90	-9.4	21	0.2%	8.08	-	33.3	1.8	-	0.4	24.3	215
Liberty K. Holdings	Insurance	Dec	8.00	3.50	7.08	91.9	29	0.2%	2.04	0.37	15.9	3.5	5.2	0.4	12.8	260
BOC Kenya	Gases	Dec	95.00	67.00	89.00	8.5	13	0.1%	10.73	8.55	85.1	8.3	9.6	1.0	12.6	2,716
NSE	Finance	Dec	6.62	5.44	5.84	-3.0	12	0.1%	0.21	0.16	7.1	27.7	2.7	0.8	3.0	3,991
Housing Finance	Banking Food	Dec Jun	4.79 17.70	3.25 11.45	3.90	12.1	12 9	0.1% 0.1%	1.23	-	20.5	3.2	-	0.2 0.3	6.0	355 411
Unga Ltd Sanlam Kenya	Insurance	Dec	7.60	5.00	15.90 5.00	-5.6 -16.7	9 6	0.1%	(18.92) 2.27	-	58.3 3.9	- 2.2	-	0.3 1.3	(32.4) 58.6	1,510
Car & Gen	Motors	Sept	30.40	18.85	21.05	-15.8	7	0.0%	(7.68)	-	135.8	-	-	0.2	(5.7)	1,510
Limuru Tea	Agric	Dec	380.00	365.00	365.00	-3.9	7	0.0%	0.11	1.00	80.9	-	0.3	4.5	0.1	-
WPP Scangroup	Media	Dec	2.80	1.90	2.24	2.8	7	0.1%	0.06	-	11.9	35.2	-	0.2	0.5	837
EA Portland	Cement	Jun	50.75	4.46	36.60	357.5	25	0.2%	(14.13)	-	239.8	-	-	0.0	(5.9)	1,422
Standard Newspapers	Media	Dec	8.70	5.10	5.12	-33.9	3	0.0%	(10.05)	-	0.4	-	-	11.6	(2,284)	37
Longhorn	Publishing	Jun	2.6	2.02	2.28	-5.4	5	0.0%	(2.45)	-	2.8	-	-	0.8	(88.1)	60
TransCentury	Finance	Dec	0.71	0.32	0.40	-23.1	1	0.0%	(6.72)	-	(9.5)	-	-	-	-	512
•									. ,	A۱	verage	12.8	9.4	2.1	24.4	2,069,855

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